

RENTALS
NATHAN WILSON & CO.
FLAT SHARE
CANT PAY - WONT PAY!
19 convicted in mail train case
'Times' racing industry series
Cable TV plan for growth
Matthews quits
Roy Fox dies
'The Times'

No 61.189

Countryman trial clears four police

A jury in the Central Criminal Court acquitted four London policemen on charges brought by Operation Countryman, the investigation into allegations of London police corruption. Both earlier cases brought by Countryman against London policemen had also ended in acquittals. Page 4

Royal couple to the rescue

The Prince and Princess of Wales helped to save a boy being crushed against a barrier by a crowd welcoming them in Newcastle upon Tyne. The Princess saw the boy in danger and the couple helped him to safety. Page 2

Argentines land in Falklands

The Foreign Office is to be asked by a Conservative MP for a full statement about the illegal landing on an outlying part of the Falkland Islands of about 50 Argentines who raised their country's flag. Page 6

Columbia hits mechanical snag

After a flawless blast-off from the Kennedy Space Centre, the space shuttle Columbia developed a fault in one of its hydraulic power units. It was described as a minor problem. Back page

Tory MPs rally round Whitelaw

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, had an overwhelmingly friendly reception last night from Conservative backbench MPs who are worried about the rising crime rate but who have no new ideas for tackling it. Page 2

19 convicted in mail train case

Thomas Wisbey, who took part in the Great Train Robbery, was fined £500 for handling travellers' cheques stolen in a series of mail train thefts. Eighteen others were also convicted and jail sentences totalling 37 years were imposed. Page 2

'Times' racing industry series

Today The Times launches a major series on the horse racing industry. Last night Sir Desmond Plummer, chairman of the Levy Board, said he would not be able to provide funds to save the Grand National, but would help smaller courses. Pages 17, 18

Cable TV plan for growth

A £200m plan to provide cable television to half of Britain's homes was put forward by the Information Technology Advisory Panel. The Home Secretary announced an inquiry into policy on the growth of cable services. Page 2

Matthews quits

Lord Matthews resigned from the board of JAGC after an abortive attempt by non-executive directors to oust Mr Robert Holmes a Court as chairman. Page 13

Roy Fox dies

Roy Fox, the band leader of the 1930s, who was said to have earned £1,000 a week when the average wage was £5, died in a South London home at the weekend. He was 81.

'The Times'

Readers of yesterday's earlier editions will have noticed that a photograph was omitted from the Arts Page. This was due to production difficulties, and we apologise.

Leader page, 9

Letters: On seabed rights, from Professor D. R. Denman, and Mr R. C. O'Leary. European Alliance, from Sir D. Denner. Leading articles: Cable television; Lower Saxony elections; Pakistan. Features, pages 7, 8.

In the grip of Rome fever

Clifford Longley, Sir Raymond consultation for more staff mounting tension in the West Bank; London fashion, by Suzi Menkes. Obituary, page 10. Dr Helena Wright, Mr Harry H. Corbett.

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Heseltine to seek 9% cut in council spending

By David Walker

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, will ask local councils to begin planning to cut their spending in 1983-84 on the basis of a 9 per cent cut in real terms in their current expenditure on such items as teachers and social services.

The reduction is larger than previously announced. Judging by the Government's control of council budgets in recent years, the new target is highly unlikely to be realized. But if it is not achieved, the Government will have to substantially revise its spending plans upwards.

The new target is set out in papers prepared for the Conservative Council on Local Government Finance, tomorrow's meeting will direct the work of joint groups of council officials and civil servants in examining council jobs and spending over the coming months.

According to information that has been collected by the Department of the Environment, the budgets of English councils for 1982-83 are £1,200m, or 6 per cent above the Government's expenditure targets. A further reduction of 3 per cent would be necessary for council spending in 1983-84 to match the Government's present plans.

Council planning during the next few months will be beset by more uncertainty about the future than is usual. The new system of cash planning used in full for the first time in the Government's recent public spending White Paper means, in the opinion of some, that no figures are reliable beyond the end of March 1983.

Mr Heseltine may give some sign tomorrow of how he proposes to deal with the "overspending" by local councils in 1982-83. One problem is that up to half the £1,200m is attributable to Conservative-controlled councils: about £550m of spending above targets belongs to the county councils; about £50m to district councils and the rest to the city and London councils.

Last year, Mr Heseltine penalized overspending councils by holding back some of the rate support grant. He could do the same again. But during debates on the controversial Local Government Finance (No 2) Bill, ministers promised that any holding back of grant would not discriminate among councils: except according to a pre-determined formula. Councils are especially vulnerable to any loss of income from grants for council spending in 1983-84 to match the Government's present plans.

Mr Heseltine also told the party that the police were determined to deal with any outbreak of violence which might mark the anniversary of last year's riots in the English cities, beginning with the outbreak in Brixton, south London, last April. He said there was some risk of trouble because of what he called the "anniversary technique" by which trouble makers promote demonstrations. He said the response to any trouble, which he was not really expecting, would be determined and speedy.

Mr Gardner found no evidence in last night's meeting that the party was becoming restive over Mr Whitelaw's handling of crime. Mr Whitelaw told the meeting that he was wholly determined to deal in particular with street crime and burglary. He thought the argument about hard and soft policemen did not help. He believed a good policeman was both a community policeman and a person capable of catching criminals.

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Iraq in desperate search for peace as Iran launches new offensive

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, March 22

The Iraqi Government of President Saddam Hussein is now desperately searching for a peaceful settlement to the Gulf war. A bitterly fought battle around the town of Bostan last month enabled the Iraqis to recapture high land above the Iraqi-Iranian frontier and put a temporary end to what looked like becoming a debacle for President Hussein's army.

But this small victory was achieved at the cost of heavy casualties. The Iraqis claimed that the Iranians suffered 7,700 fatalities but Iraqi sources suggest that their own death toll may have been almost equally serious.

Iraqi justification for this small tactical success was so great that President Hussein had to appear on television to urge Baghdad residents to stop firing their machine-guns into the air in celebration.

In December, the town of Bostan had been lost by Iraqi troops, a severe setback which was followed up with some ruthlessness by the Iranian Government. President Hussein is said personally to have executed several senior army officers.

It is against this grim background that Iraq's latest gestures towards peace should be seen. Having originally fought their way into Iran in September, 1980, after tearing up the treaty of Shatt-al-Arab waterway, the Iraqis are no longer insisting on sole control of the river. At least one senior member



An Israeli soldier kicks away a barrel as burning tyres block a Ramallah street.

Israeli soldiers kill second West Bank demonstrator

From Christopher Walker, Ramallah, March 22

Israeli troops firing live ammunition killed another Palestinian demonstrator today, the second to die in 48 hours after soldiers were given orders to fire straight into a stone-throwing crowd.

The killing took place as the mass Arab protest against last week's Israeli dismantling of the elected Palestinian council of El Bireh moved into its fourth consecutive day. Israeli forces made determined efforts to break the strike in a number of key areas, but these were largely unsuccessful.

According to a military spokesman, the young Palestinian was shot after a crowd attacked an army patrol at a refugee camp. Two young Arabs were wounded by the bullets, but no immediate indication of their condition was available. The spokesman claimed that troops had first fired tear gas grenades and shots in the air, before turning their weapons on the legs of the crowd.

Palestinian sources named the dead demonstrator as Mohammed Badha, 17. His death occurred only hours after an official announcement from Tel Aviv clearing troops who shot dead another 17-year-old Arab youth in El-Bireh on Saturday from any blame. It was claimed that he had been on a roof at the time.

Justifying the controversial policy of shooting live ammunition, Major General Uri Orr, the chief of Israel's central command, said tonight: "The Arabs in these areas get used to soldiers shooting in the air, and they have taken advantage of that to stone the soldiers, hoping that they will not be harmed as a result. The soldiers who shot at the legs of the rioters did so at the direct orders of an authorized officer and in self-defence."

The general told Israel Radio that in recent weeks the real struggle between the Israeli civilian administration and the Palestinian Liberation Organisation had begun for the control of the West Bank.

He admitted that barricades in cities and collective punishment were being employed, but said that riots were also a collective act.

The death of Badha was the most serious incident in a day of widespread violence in which the army continued to impose a virtual blockade around three large Palestinian towns and a 24-hour military curfew on many thousands of Arab families in El-Bireh and nearby Ramallah. Thick coils of barbed wire stretched across roads in normally quiet residential areas added to the impression that a new stage in the West Bank conflict has now been reached.

In the Jalazun refugee camp, on the outskirts of Ramallah, troops were involved in another violent clash with Palestinians. Local sources later claimed that a 25-year-old Arab had been taken to hospital with a brain haemorrhage after being hit by a baton.

The army made no immediate comment. The harsh tactics being used by the security forces against both demonstrators and strikers are now the subject of growing political criticism inside Israel. This will come to a head tomorrow when the Government faces three separate no confidence motions from left-wing parties in the Knesset.

Today Mr Teddy Kolek, the popular Jerusalem mayor, spoke out angrily against the efforts by hundreds of members of the security forces to force Arab shopkeepers in the city to close their doors.

He said that the criticism of the Government's policy of using force to impose order in the West Bank was not new. It had been there since 1967, with detailed work starting in 1972. But the select committee has found that the ministry failed to take a firm grip on the scheme.

Extensive management changes were introduced in 1976, by which time the price of Chevaline had risen to £300m, and the committee feels that these changes should have been introduced in 1974.

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Shell puts 5p on petrol price

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Shell attempted yesterday to start a new round of petrol price increases by putting 5p a gallon on pump prices with effect from midnight last night. The move, which will be followed by BP, comes less than two weeks after the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced a 9p a gallon increase in excise duty.

To the undoubted bafflement of motorists, it also comes at a time when there is a world oil glut, and the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries has just decided to cut its production in a desperate effort to avoid reducing its oil prices. This has not stopped the big oil companies losing millions of pounds on petrol.

The average price of four star petrol in the London area will go up 15.4p a gallon to 159.5p. In rural areas where petrol has been selling at an average of 164p a gallon, prices would stay about the same, or even fall slightly, Shell said. The company said one purpose of its move was to eliminate disparity of up to 30p a gallon in pump prices between different parts of the country.

BP said last night it would follow Shell's move in the next day or two. Esso, the third of the big three, also wants to put prices up, but said that it would wait before acting.

Budget excise duty increases on cigarettes of 5p on a packet of 20 are expected to start showing up in the shops next month. Gallaher, the second largest tobacco manufacturer which stockpiled to keep its prices at pre-Budget levels, said last night it would be raising prices from April 9, pushing its Benson and Hedges to £1.04 for 20 and Silk Cut to £1.03.

Other manufacturers, many of which have been absorbing the Budget increases to peg their own prices, are expected to follow Gallaher shortly.

Passengers down, page 2

Ministry censured over missile

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Ministry of Defence has been censured by a Commons select committee for poor management of the £1,000m Chevaline modernization of Britain's Polaris nuclear missiles.

Chevaline, a missile improvement which will enable Polaris to be maintained until Trident missiles, the chosen replacement, are ready in the 1990s, is expected to be operational next year. Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, admitted during the Warrington by-election campaign last July that the costs of Chevaline had gone bananas.

The project has now been investigated by the Commons Select Committee of Public Accounts which, in a report to be published shortly, levels serious criticism against the ministry for an under-estimation of costs, timescale, and overall poor management.

Whitehall's consistent failure to inform Parliament of the progress of the scheme is considered unacceptable; behind a blanket of security and secrecy the cost of the project rose from the 1972 estimate of £175m to the present forecast of £1,000m.

Initial studies of Polaris modernization began in 1967, with detailed work starting in 1972. But the select committee has found that the ministry failed to take a firm grip on the scheme.

Extensive management changes were introduced in 1976, by which time the price of Chevaline had risen to £300m, and the committee feels that these changes should have been introduced in 1974.

Bus folk tell Dave where to get off

By David Hewson

Mr David "Call me Dave" Wetzell, chairman of the GLC's transport committee and tribune of the London traveller, approached the ticket barrier of Bow Road Underground station with all the eager anticipation of the righteous, a 40p ticket for a 60p fare clutched tightly in his hand.

"You know why we're here, you know about our fight," Mr Wetzell told the uniformed character at the barrier, who had started his campaign against the new high fares by taking a bus from Portland Place to County Hall and refusing to pay more than 20p the old fare for what is now a 40p ride. At Trafalgar Square, the bus stopped and the conductor told Mr Wetzell to pay up or get off.

Undaunted, the councillor called for an instant halloo of the passengers on the issue: should they support the man elected to control London Transport when he thinks he should only pay 20p, or should he set off the bus? He alighted, stayed on, but the majority were against me. I accept a democratic decision, so I got off the bus."

There was a little consolation for him at County Hall. Mr Leslie Huchfield, the Labour member for Nuneham, Aslef and the Transport Workers, confided: "Don't worry Dave, they would have been junior ranking civil servants. They're like that."

Then Mr Wetzell, aged 39, a former bus conductor, Mr Huchfield, and six other GLC councillors set out to thwart the high fares imposed in Mr Wetzell's words, by "five remain in ermine", a remark believed to be directed at the Law Lords. This was not an easy task.

Popular support was not overwhelming. When Mr Wetzell's party and his media followers boarded at Lambeth it seemed that the cherry red doors of hell were opening and not those of a Bakerloo line train.

Mr Wetzell, meanwhile, revealed the actual cost of the new fares. They will, he said, firm, mean 10,000 more road accidents in London, 4,500 more people injured and an extra 30 deaths. "I find that totally unacceptable," he added, revealing the human face of left-wing socialism.

The good news from yesterday is that the bars of fruit and nut chocolate on the Underground continue to cost 20p; the bad is that the machines still take your money and refuse to come up with the goods.

Passengers down, page 2

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Poor work threat to householder

Unfair practices by companies operating in the home improvements field, with shoddy workmanship, poor service and the use of substandard materials, widely affect Britain's 20 million householders, Mr Gordon Borrie, Director General of Fair Trading, said yesterday (Derek Harris writes).

He was introducing a discussion paper in the home improvements sector, the result of more than two years' study by the Office of Fair Trading, which set out yesterday possible steps to clean up the worst abuses and highlighted the practice of high-pressure doorstep selling.

Mr Borrie advised householders to get detailed quotations for work, including cancellation rights, and guarantees from at least two companies, to clarify whether the main contractor or a subcontractor was liable if things went wrong, to be careful about advance payments and their size, and to shop around and not be rushed.

But he also said householders sometimes showed an unusual lack of caution, to a marked degree of innocence.

Paper card game stopped

Waddington's manufacturers of playing cards and board games, including Monopoly, were granted a temporary order in the High Court in London today preventing Mr Bernie Carroll, a Liverpool businessman, from selling Popopoly, a postcard game inspired by the forthcoming papal visit.

Mr Geoffrey Hobbs, for Waddington's, told Mr Justice Warner: "To be associated in vulgar card game would be very seriously damaging to Waddington's trade reputation".

13th firing that killed three

Three Royal Marines who were killed in a training exercise last week died when the thirteenth firing of a mortar went wrong, an inquest was told yesterday.

Instead of the mortar being fired from the launcher, it exploded in the barrel, hurling metal into the men and seriously injuring two others, at the Otterburn Army training range, in Northumberland, last Thursday. The inquest was opened and adjourned in Hexham.

Rugby stalker fined £50

Robert Brown, an unemployed labourer, aged 22, who ran naked across the turf at Cardiff Arms Park on Saturday halting play in the rugby international between Wales and Scotland, was fined £50 at Cardiff Magistrates Court yesterday.

He said after the hearing: "I was fed up with the match, so I just decided to streak. I got more cheers than the Welsh team."

Bomb charge youth cleared

Paul Conroy, aged 19, of Langton Road, Warrington, Merseyside, who broke his back when a police Land Rover allegedly hit him during the Toxteth riots last year, was acquitted yesterday of a charge of throwing a petrol bomb at police during the rioting. (Our Liverpool Correspondent writes).

The jury at Liverpool Crown Court failed to reach verdicts on charges of causing an affray and possessing a brick as an offensive weapon, and a retrial was ordered.

33 arrested in missiles protest

Police arrested 33 demonstrators yesterday after disturbances outside the Greenham Common air base near Newbury, Berkshire.

The demonstrators, who were staging a 24-hour protest at the base, where cruise missiles are to be stationed from December next year, moved to cover an emergency gate police had opened to let in a convoy of contractors' vehicles. The police said that 12 people, 10 women and two Buddhist monks were arrested for obstruction and other arrests followed later.

Strikers reject £7

Workers employed in Norfolk and Suffolk by Bernard Matthews, the turkey producers, yesterday rejected an offer of a 7 per cent rise to end their strike. But fewer than a quarter of the 1,200 workers took part, and Mr Matthews said a secret ballot would be held.

Drugs suicide

Miss Fiona Montagu, aged 29, a public relations consultant, of Thistle Grove, Chelsea, London, the daughter of Mrs David Montagu, former chairman of Orion Bank, killed herself with an enormous overdose of drugs, the Westminster Coroner decided yesterday.

£2,000m cable TV faces Whitelaw inquiry

By Kenneth Gosling

The Government yesterday put a steady hand on plans to institute a big cable television programme by 1986 with the announcement by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, of the setting up of a three-man inquiry into broadcasting policy.

It will report in six months time and will be headed by Lord Hunt of Tanworth, a former Secretary to the Cabinet. Mr Whitelaw's announcement in the Commons came on the day the Information Technology Advisory Panel put forward a plan costing £2,000m to provide cable services to half of Britain's homes.

It opens up the prospect of 2,000 more jobs in the construction industry and a stimulus for consumer electronics and office technology industries.

Mr Charles Read, the panel's chairman, said the development of cable television was regarded as highly desirable and inevitable; cable systems were complementary to direct broadcasting and not competitive.

The report urged a tight timetable, and that view was echoed in Whitehall yesterday. Far from there being a time lag between the Home Office and the Department of Industry over the rush to cable, it was emphasized, as the panel pointed out, that if Britain fails to catch the tide, the chance for British industry to catch up with the poorer and cable will develop not on British but on imported technology.

It will be part of the inquiry's task to awaken political interest and to get a wider range of opinions developed fairly rapidly. The six months the inquiry, which is due to report at the end of September, will be sitting is reported as vital to the future of the programme.

Mr Whitelaw, in a Commons written reply, said the inquiry would be working in parallel with urgent studies the government departments concerned would be carrying out into the economic, technical and telecommunications

policy issues related to the expansion of cable.

He said some were identified in the panel's report as requiring further consideration, and included such matters as whether cable operators should both control cable systems and provide programme services; range and balance of content; the obligation on cable systems to relay United Kingdom broadcasting services; whether advertising should be permitted; and the appropriate supervisory framework.

That final point is taken to mean the creation of a body such as the Independent Broadcasting Authority, which might take it itself to award franchises as the IBA does in television and radio.

The IBA said last night it would study the panel's report, and especially the possible effects on existing expanding services and on Channel Four when it opens up later this year.

The BBC also welcomed the technological development because, it said, it supported the country's electronics industry. But it expressed reservations about the implications for the licence payer, "who could be deprived of sporting events, films and big occasions that he has always traditionally enjoyed".

Apart from sports and entertainment, cable systems will offer a variety of services, including holiday bookings, ordering shopping, news and information, betting, house purchase, fire alarm, burglar alarms and opinion polls.

Granada Television is to present experimental programmes from May to give viewers a chance to "talk back" to its studios in Manchester.

A representative group will have equipment installed in their homes, constituting a panel able to give instant replies to polls, to take part in quizzes, judge talent contests and answer examination papers.

Leading article, page 9
Business News, page 13

Absence affects achievement

From Tim Jones
Cardiff

Consistent absenteeism of more than a quarter during the crucial fourth and fifth years is one of the commonest causes of under-achievement in Welsh secondary schools. According to a report published yesterday, the bulk of recorded absenteeism is probably condoned by parents.

The report, compiled by the Schools Inspectors, says that the effects are observable when many pupils of average ability who should attain at least moderate success in a range of subjects at CSE level fail to do themselves justice because their work is interrupted by absenteeism.

Poorly planned teaching schemes, monotonous presentation and a lack of commitment to marking and careful assessment are also blamed for poor results. "Not only will the resultant programmes be poor in quality, but the pupils' motivation is likely to be undermined by the implicit message that his experience is not worthy of proper planning and monitoring."

Teachers are criticized for their tendency to resort too readily to a referral process which takes the difficult pupil out of the classroom and into the hands of a pastoral care specialist.

"In some cases an inordinate amount of the time and energies of senior staff and those designated pastoral responsibilities are directed to the problems of a minority of children while the pressing needs of the majority are relatively neglected."

It appears that under-achievement is most widespread and serious among the large number of pupils in the middle ability range who take several CSEs, usually combined with one or two GCE O level examinations.

Two out of every three gifted children are not being recognized as having exceptional gifts by their teachers, with the result that suitable provision is not being made for them, according to research carried out under the auspices of the National Association for Gifted Children and financed by the Welsh Office.

More than 5,000 pupils in six comprehensive schools in a mixture of urban and rural communities were given standardized tests using 20 different measures of giftedness, such as verbal reasoning, mathematical reasoning, IQ, creativity and imagination.

Those who scored in the top 2 per cent on any of those measures or who had an IQ of 130 or above were counted as "gifted".

Planning for Progress (The Welsh Office, Cardiff).

Passengers down but takings up

By Michael Bailey
and Richard Evans

Passenger traffic on London's buses and Underground trains was sharply down yesterday, the first working day of doubled fares. But both road traffic and revenue were up.

Between five million and 5,500,000 passengers are believed to have travelled, compared with the usual six million (four million by bus, and two million by Tube). But revenues thought to have exceeded £1.2m, compared with the usual £800,000, as passengers once again got used to paying in notes rather than coins.

Worst affected were the short-distance travellers, who seem to have abandoned London Transport in droves to walk rather than pay the new minimum fares of 20p on the buses and 40p on the Underground.

Over longer distances traffic was much as usual, with people paying up glumly but stoically. That was in marked contrast to the day after the fare increase, when the organized by Labour's Greater London Councilors, about a thousand of whom are believed to have refused to pay the new fares during the day.

London Transport staff dealt with the situation politely, but there were a handful of "incidents", including a conductor who was arrested at King's Cross after blows were exchanged with a passenger refusing to pay, and a woman in Streatham who was arrested for refusing to pay.

Sir Peter Masefield, London Transport chairman, described the campaign, including Mr David Wetzel, his own political superior, chairman of the GLC transport committee, as "irresponsible" and said they faced prosecution.

While London Transport regretted the higher fares, they did not support the campaign, preferring to fight for more support through legal and democratic channels. Sir Peter said, and that applied to the travellers too.

"The great British public are very sensible," he said. "They will grouse today as I grouse, but they will pay."

At Underground stations staff declined the standard refusal slips prepared for passengers requiring instead completion of LT's form for people refusing to pay. On the buses many conductors simply asked people to leave the bus when they saw they had paid. Police described road traffic as only slightly up, with no serious difficulties.



The Princess of Wales talking to a member of a local youth group

during her visit to Huddersfield yesterday. She and the Prince mixed with young people

who were given cash aid from the Prince's trust, which he formed in 1976.

'Victory' on telephones for disabled

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

Liverpool council has decided to spend an extra £20,000 to clear its waiting lists of more than 700 disabled people waiting for help with telephones.

The decision is being claimed as an important victory by disability groups.

It marks both an apparent shift in the way ministers are prepared to intervene when local councils are accused of breaking the law, and a reversal of the council's previous position.

Liverpool is one of several authorities referred by the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (Radar) for ministerial action over alleged breaches of the Act.

The council assured Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, that they would install a telephone for the individual disabled resident named but decided to retain their waiting lists.

Radar protested that Liverpool's decision was illegal. Since similar inquiries by Mr Fowler had led the London Borough of Wandsworth to abandon its waiting list.

The organization, which is leading a consortium of 14 charities campaigning for the spending cuts, argued that the individual case should be taken as representing the hundreds of other disabled people accepted by Liverpool as needing assistance.

Inventor buys home with a royal view

From Craig Seton, Tetbury

The auctioneer was very discreet. The rather rundown Cotswold Cottage he sold yesterday to Mr John Sansome, an inventor, and his wife, Jane, was "a nice little property" but the 40 or so television cameramen, photographers and reporters present for the bidding suggested that it had something extra, the unmentioned neighbours, perhaps.

When the auctioneer's hammer came down on their successful £37,000 bid, Mr and Mrs Sansome became the owners of The Retreat, at Doughton, a house they had not even seen, and the newest neighbours of the Prince and Princess of Wales at their Gloucestershire home, Highgrove, near Tetbury.

Mr and Mrs Sansome insisted that their royal neighbours were not the reason for buying the property. It was just what they wanted, even if it needed doing up.

Mrs Sansome explained that they had been living at Ilminster, Somerset, but had been looking for a place closer to the Gloucestershire home of their daughter.

Mr Ernest Paines' the auctioneer, said the sale had created more interest than any he had known in 50 years. There had been 300 to 400 inquiries about the modest, three-bedroom, stone-built cottage, thought to be about 300 years old, which in normal circumstances would have expected to fetch about £30,000.

They were looking for a place near the Midlands, and only yesterday at lunchtime saw a television news item about the house. They immediately drove to the auction at the Hare and Hounds, Westonbirt, arrived late and 10 minutes later were the new owners of The Retreat.

Mr Sansome, aged 48, who prefers to call himself a product innovator for the motor industry, seemed rather stunned that his impulsive bid had succeeded. But, he explained, he had understood that an American was prepared to bid £41,000, so he

had prepared himself to spend much more.

Later, looking around the pretty but rather untidy premises he had not seen before, and surveying its half an acre of wooded garden, formerly a chicken run, he said: "It has got a good roof. I thought it would make about £50,000 or so, so I think I have a bargain. It is lovely and I am very pleased."

But if Mr Sansome and his wife had expected a privileged view of Highgrove they were disappointed. The gates of the house can be seen from over the wall, but only a window or part of a window of the house itself can be seen, and only when the trees are bare.

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Later, looking around the pretty but rather untidy premises he had not seen before, and surveying its half an acre of wooded garden, formerly a chicken run, he said: "It has got a good roof. I thought it would make about £50,000 or so, so I think I have a bargain. It is lovely and I am very pleased."

But if Mr Sansome and his wife had expected a privileged view of Highgrove they were disappointed. The gates of the house can be seen from over the wall, but only a window or part of a window of the house itself can be seen, and only when the trees are bare.

Mr and Mrs Sansome insisted that their royal neighbours were not the reason for buying the property. It was just what they wanted, even if it needed doing up.

Mrs Sansome explained that they had been living at Ilminster, Somerset, but had been looking for a place closer to the Gloucestershire home of their daughter.

Mr Ernest Paines' the auctioneer, said the sale had created more interest than any he had known in 50 years. There had been 300 to 400 inquiries about the modest, three-bedroom, stone-built cottage, thought to be about 300 years old, which in normal circumstances would have expected to fetch about £30,000.

They were looking for a place near the Midlands, and only yesterday at lunchtime saw a television news item about the house. They immediately drove to the auction at the Hare and Hounds, Westonbirt, arrived late and 10 minutes later were the new owners of The Retreat.

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Tories urge shop floor right to call for ballots

By Paul Rontledge,
Labour Editor

A new right for workers to demand secret ballots to elect their leaders and vote on National strikes is being sought by Conservative trade unionists.

Three Tory MPs yesterday tabled amendments to Mr Norman Tebbit's employment Bill that would allow a relatively small number of workers to trigger a formula for compulsory rule changes in their unions.

The Secretary of State for Employment is said to be sympathetic to the idea of secret ballots to elect union presidents, general secretaries and executive committees, and before national strikes are called, and there is a strong chance that the proposals may be incorporated into the legislation now going through Parliament.

Under an ingenious formula put forward by the MPs, Mr Tebbit's amendment would require a union of 1,000 members, or 5 per cent of a union's membership (whichever is the smaller) to require a shift to secret ballots.

There would be a time lag of nearly three years for unions voluntarily to introduce such measures, and the MPs promoting the measure admitted yesterday that they would take the proposal well beyond the next general election.

But if their clauses are inserted into the legislation then, after January 1, 1985 any union that had failed to change its rules to permit elections every five years for its chief officers, and ballots on national strikes, could be obliged to do so by an affirmative order laid before parliament.

Mr Renton said: "The impression I have from Mr Tebbit is that he is in favour of the principle of the Bill. His department says there are all sorts of technical difficulties, but he is very much in favour."

The proposed legislative reforms were introduced at a Conservative Central Office press conference yesterday by Mrs Joy Bushby, a vice-president of the Conservative Trade Unionists, and a former white-collar negotiator at BL's Longbridge plant.

If secret ballots of the kind proposed were introduced then I am absolutely certain that the industrial relations scene will be different.

"Trade union members will not be subject to intimidation. I have been present at these open meetings in car parks where there is absolute intimidation. If people only vote the way they feel without anyone knowing, we would have a very different industrial relations picture."

Her view was supported by Mrs Margaret Daly, deputy director at Conservative Central Office, who insisted that if strike ballots were compulsory, the unions could be traced to actual causes "rather than the activities of bloody-minded shop stewards and political revolutionaries".

Mr Renton added that the Layland figu for members requiring a rule change had been set at a level "large enough not to be frivolous, but small enough to be achievable."

"I assume the Labour Party will campaign against this new clause. If they do, I think it would be very unpopular with their members. But that is up to them."

The report of Lord McCarthy's tribunal into the controversial issue of flexible working hours on the railways is likely to be delayed for several weeks because the three-man tribunal wants to interview workers at locomotive depots. (David Felton writes).

A decision on which depots to visit will have to wait until Lord McCarthy's return from holiday in Canada which he starts next week.

That will be a disappointment to British Rail, which had urged Lord McCarthy to produce the Railway Staff National Tribunal report as quickly as possible to remove that uncertainty.

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Science report

Soft error in silicon puts robots at risk

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

Competition is increasing between research teams in Japan, the United States and Europe to be world leader in building the so-called fifth generation of computers.

The experimental versions of machines for controlling robots, the telephone systems of the world and dance equipment, are being tested in the laboratory in America and Japan.

But the designers of these systems are facing an unexpected difficulty; the machines can be built unwittingly with errors that are impossible to eradicate. The type of fault involved can be tolerated for equipment used in a bank or insurance company, but it cannot be accepted in aircraft equipment or missiles.

The trouble has come in taking the technology of the silicon chip a stage further. Existing commercial processes can etch 50,000 microscopic transistor circuits on to a piece of silicon smaller than a postage stamp. Now scientists have experimental versions with more than 250,000 and 500,000 transistors at new stages of development.

They are being designed as electronic memories to meet a demand for cheap data storage.

Each of the transistors on a memory chip is in fact a tiny electrical charge. The charge has become so small that the process of compressing high densities of transistor circuits on to a single chip, that the information in the memory can be altered by changes that occur naturally in the silicon.

One of those changes is produced by alpha-particles originating from naturally occurring radioactive uranium and thorium which is present in the silicon of the chip itself or its associated packaging material or interconnections.

That phenomenon has been investigated by the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell, Oxfordshire, by a team working with Dr James Stephen and Mr David Mapper in the applied physics division.

They refer to this effect as a "soft error", and they have devised methods for showing how it occurs in materials. The trick is to take a picture of the material resembling an X-ray, but the image is created by bombarding the sample with thermal neutrons in a special research reactor.

A special polyimide film, sensitive to neutron radiation, provides when developed a picture of the tracks made by alpha-particles. Under the microscope the tracks look similar to fatigue cracks in a specimen of metal.

Fission tracks capable of changing the information content have been found at Harwell in one of the new range of 64K RAMs (65,536 digits of random access memory), which leading Japanese and American semiconductor manufacturers are introducing in the microcomputer market.

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The dismissed canteen workers. From left, Mrs Wendy Clift, Mrs Doris Todd, Mrs Irene Russell and Mrs Gloria Price.

Closed shop women get £10,958

From Our Correspondent, Birmingham

Four school canteen workers who were dismissed when they refused to join a trade union were yesterday awarded £10,958 compensation between them. Less than half the individual case should be taken as representing the hundreds

Soft error in silicon puts robots at risk

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Competition in the silicon chip industry is increasing between Japan, the United States and Europe to be the first to produce a silicon chip called fifth generation.

The experimental machines controlling robots, the telephone systems of the world and defence systems are all based on silicon chips. But the designers of these systems are facing an unexpected difficulty: the silicon chips can be damaged by soft errors.

These errors are caused by cosmic rays and other high energy particles which hit the silicon chip. The errors are not permanent, but they can cause the chip to malfunction. The errors are caused by cosmic rays and other high energy particles which hit the silicon chip. The errors are not permanent, but they can cause the chip to malfunction.

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TUNNEL TO PASS UNDER RIVER CONWY

The Conwy Tunnel is a road tunnel in North Wales, England. It is the longest road tunnel in the United Kingdom, with a length of 1,540 metres (5,050 feet). The tunnel was opened in 1967 and is used by the A55 road, which connects the town of Conwy to the town of Colwyn Bay.

The tunnel was built by the Conwy Tunnel Construction Company, which was a joint venture between the British and American governments. The tunnel was built at a cost of £10 million and was the first road tunnel to be built in the United Kingdom since the opening of the M62 in 1961.

The tunnel is a single-lane road, with a width of 7.3 metres (24 feet). It has a maximum height of 6.7 metres (22 feet) and a maximum weight limit of 40 tonnes. The tunnel is used by about 10,000 vehicles per day.

The tunnel is a popular tourist attraction, and it is one of the most famous landmarks in North Wales. It is also a popular place for photography, and it is often featured in travel guides and brochures.

Trident dominates the Hillhead war of words

From Jonathan Wills, Glasgow

Eleven Scottish Conservative MPs, including Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, turned out on the streets of Glasgow yesterday to back Mr Gerald Malone in the final stretch of the Hillhead by-election campaign.

The Conservative candidate also received an encouraging message from the Prime Minister, who wrote that "the people of Hillhead understand that at this juncture of our affairs courage and consistency of purpose are the supreme political virtues". Mrs Margaret Thatcher endorsed Mr Malone as a first-class candidate who shared her view that there were signs of success for government policies.

Clearly invigorated by that endorsement, Mr Malone was in top form, making a spirited defence of the decision to buy the Trident 2 missile, defending the fight to private education and forecasting better unemployment figures.

"We are on course," said Mr Malone, "and I am extremely confident of victory on Thursday". "Hear, Hear," the MPs chorused in their best parliamentary voices as Mr Malone announced that he would be taking his seat alongside them next week.

A weekend of brisk canvassing had put new life into the Labour campaign when Mr David Wiseman met the world's press and issued a challenge to Mr Malone "to produce a single positive idea for cutting the dole queues which Mrs Thatcher's government has created".

Mrs Helen Liddell, the party's Scottish secretary, said that far from conceding defeat, as some had suggested, the Labour camp was in good heart. "We may be in for a surprise on Thursday," she declared.

Mr Donald Dewar, MP for the neighbouring constituency of Garscadden, made another eloquent attack on the "unprincipled, mechanistic approach of the Social Democratic-Liberal Alliance".

Mr Roy Jenkins had been hard-worked by his hard-working campaign managers, said Mr Dewar, but in large parts of Hillhead the product was turning out to be unsalable. Some of the SDP policy stands were "patently insane, particularly on devolution and the Trident".

Trident missiles were much in evidence in Glasgow. Mr Wiseman repeated that Labour was the only party that would do away with nuclear weapons on British soil and in British waters. More jobs would be created if the Trident money was spent on housing instead.

Mr Jenkins promised that an alliance government would cancel Trident for economic and political reasons, if it were still only a paper scheme. When the SDP gained power, if Trident had been paid for, then that would be a different matter.

Mabs join fight against cancer

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

Research into a series of relatively simple tests for the early detection of certain forms of cancer, diagnosis of infectious illnesses and the investigation of hormone deficiencies was outlined yesterday by Mr Gerard Fairclough, chief executive of Celtech.

That is the biotechnology company created with government and private money to exploit discoveries in Medical Research Council and university laboratories in Britain.

The tests depend on the development of a range of special biochemicals that allow a new form of analysis to be made of samples of blood and urine. The discovery which makes possible that method for early diagnosis comes from research in genetic engineering that shows how to manufacture pure strains of substances known as monoclonal antibodies, or mabs.

The discovery of monoclonal antibodies was used by Mr Fairclough at a meeting of the Royal Society of Arts as an example of how he expects advances in biotechnology to lead to the creation of wholly new industries in the twenty-first century. Those innovations would form the third generation of biotechnology, in his view.

The first generation stretches back centuries, involving processes such as baking bread or brewing beer with the aid of fermentation. The second generation began about forty years ago with discoveries such as antibiotics.

The next generation lies in discoveries that began about seven years ago, making it possible to create organisms by genetic engineering, thus overcoming limitations of classical genetics in improving organisms by selective breeding.

One of the ways to achieve this transfer of genes is to fuse together cells of different types.

The idea of the cell fusion process is to create immortal hybrids which secrete a pure strain of antibody.

Although the molecules are designed specifically to attack a particular target, it is impossible to try to separate individual types from a sample of blood. Yet if pure assays were available the molecules would make precise markers for identifying the telltale substance that certain cancers and infectious organisms release into the blood at an early stage.

CASH PLEA FOR WRONG JAILING

By Frances Gibb

Statutory compensation for those who have been wrongly imprisoned is proposed in an amendment tabled yesterday to the Criminal Justice Bill, now in its committee stage.

The amendment, proposed by Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party civil liberties group, aims to improve the compensation procedure, which many lawyers and civil libertarians feel is inadequate.

His proposal would provide compensation for wrong imprisonment in two circumstances: where someone is imprisoned before trial and the charges are then dropped or thrown out at criminal proceedings; or where someone spends time in prison after being convicted but is then given a free pardon or released on appeal.

Mr Kilroy-Silk said yesterday: "It is only fair to innocent people who have lost their liberty for many months that they should receive compensation from the state. An innocent person in prison can lose his job, family and reputation."

He has also proposed a new clause to the Bill allowing to recommend compensation for people acquitted after spending time in prison awaiting trial.

£1,000m shop thefts claim

By David Nicholson-Lord

Thefts from shops are likely to pass the £1,000m mark this year, coinciding with increasing skill by thieves and a wave of attacks on staff of "frightening" proportions, it was claimed yesterday.

Security heads at several leading department store chains, including Marks and Spencer, British Home Stores, Debenhams and Woolworth, united in calls for more "realistic" penalties to deter offenders, more compensation for goods stolen and greater public recognition of shop theft as a serious crime.

Their campaign, organized through the Association for the Prevention of Theft in Shops, seems likely to add a further twist to the law and order controversy, in advance of the Lords debate on Wednesday.

Lady Phillips, director of the association, who will speak in the debate, condemned the term "shoplifting" as a euphemism, and criticized sympathetic treatment of shoplifters by the media. "It is a 'them and us' thing to steal from shops," she said. "It is socially unacceptable. That is the frightening thing."

Colonel Blackwood salutes history

From Our Correspondent Bristol

A salute from Lieutenant-Colonel Jean Blackwood (right), who made military history yesterday when she became the first woman to take command of a British Army unit. She took up her appointment as colonel in charge of the 37th Wessex and Welsh Signals Regiment (Volunteers) of the territorial Army, based at Horfield Common, Bristol.

Colonel Blackwood, aged 37, started her territorial career with a WRAC independent company 20 years ago, when she was a radiography student. She was encouraged by her father, a Regular Army major. By the time she was transferred to the Wessex and Welsh in 1967 she was a commissioned lieutenant.

She said: "The men of the regiment are used to having WRAC officers, as the regiment is about a quarter women. There are no disciplinary problems from soldiers taking orders from us; I do not think they see it as essentially different from having a male commander."

It is unlikely that colonel Blackwood will ever have to order her men into close combat. The regiment is not a front-line infantry unit. "We are not involved in front-line fighting and will not be. The only time such a situation might arise is in defence." She has no children and lives with her husband, a music lecturer.

Staff Sergeant Arthur Cheetham, a regular soldier for 27 years, said: "I had a slight feeling of trepidation initially over having a woman in charge, but I have got over that now."



Judge attacks early release of prisoners

Violent prisoners are being released before the end of their sentences while the public is being subjected to a "crime explosion", Judge Michael Argyle said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Citizens in some areas were talking of forming vigilante groups to protect themselves and the police were being asked to recapture released criminals who had repeatedly reoffended.

Judge Argyle jailed for life a man who carried out sex offences against two women, aged 24, after breaking into their home. The women would not have suffered their ordeal if the released man had been made to serve out his full sentence for similar previous crimes, the judge said.

Desmond Adams, aged 24, of Crimsdown Road, Battersea, south London, was convicted of robbery, burglary and sexual assault while armed with a broadsword. He committed the offences while on "home leave" from a five-year sentence for similar offences.

Judge Argyle awarded the women £250 each for their courage in trying to fight him off and the physical and mental harm they suffered. He said: "I have little doubt that he would do it or try to do it again if given the opportunity."

The judge added that the case had caused him great "unease" and was his second recently where an accused man could not have carried out offences if he had been allowed to complete his full sentence by the authorities, "including the Court of Appeal".

Judge Argyle said: "All over the country police and prison officers are being asked to control a crime explosion, and judges to try and retry criminals due to the actions of some parts of bureaucracy who are tending to make their task more difficult."

"It is a pity that much of the time of the police, as with this defendant, is taken up by recapturing dangerous criminals on home leave, remission, bail or parole."

Birch 'ineffective in crime fight'

More than three quarters of those birched in the Isle of Man since 1960 reoffended, Mrs Vivien Stern, director of the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, said in a statement yesterday (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

The statement which coincides with today's debate on corporal punishment in the House of Commons standing committee on the Criminal Justice Bill, concedes that violent crimes have increased in the Isle of Man since the birch fell into disuse. But it says those crimes have also increased in other European countries where there has been no change in penalties.

Mrs Stern says that in the past corporal punishment has proved ineffective in the fight against crime.

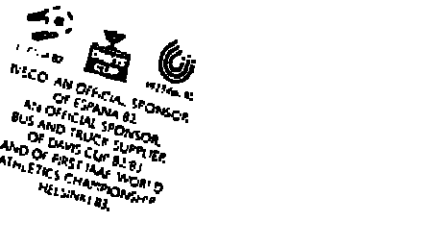
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IVECO, A WORLD OF TRANSPORT



Operation Countryman court case

Policemen cleared of corruption

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Four London policemen were cleared yesterday by a jury at the Central Criminal Court of conspiring to pervert the course of justice. Three of the officers were also acquitted of corruption charges in a prosecution mounted by Operation Countryman, the inquiry into allegations of London police corruption.

The London policemen were charged as a result of Countryman, which has cost £2m. Two other Countryman trials have led to acquittals.

As the jury announced its verdict at the end of the eight-week trial, one of the policemen in the dock, Inspector Terence Babbage, shouted: "Thank you, thank you," and raised his hands in the air. Afterwards, Det. Constable Paul Rextrew said, "The charges had been monstrous and should never have been brought."

Constable Rextrew, aged 26, and Mr Babbage, aged 38, were charged with conspiracy to pervert the course of justice. Constable John David Ross, aged 34, and Det. Constable Michael Bradley Ross, his

brother, aged 31, with conspiracy to pervert the course of justice by planting evidence against two men after a bank robbery, and falsely claiming that articles had been found and that oral admissions had been made.

The constables and the sergeant were also charged with making unwarranted demands for money. During the trial, Mr Babbage was formally acquitted of making a false statement. All the charges were denied.

The allegations of perverting the course of justice revolved around an 18,000 armed band raid in 1977 and the arrest of Mr John Carpenter, both of west London. In 1979 the case against the two men was dropped at the Central Criminal Court after allegations of police corruption which led to the Countryman prosecution.

Mr Carpenter has since been convicted of burglary and Mr Twoomey is in custody charged with two cases of armed robbery in 1981.

'Swedey' squad's inquiries were beset by problems

By Our Crime Reporter

During the course of the Operation Countryman trial at the Central Criminal Court, which finished yesterday, one of the difficulties of the rural forces taking part in Countryman.

London officers were dealing with incidents of robbery every hour, while the home base of the Countryman officers, had little more to worry about than the theft of invalid carriages. It was a cruel, and inaccurate, jibe, but one that would be taken up in the aftermath of the third prosecution in which Countryman has failed to secure a conviction.

At a cost of more than £2m, the officers London detectives dubbed derisively as the "Swedey" have succeeded only in convicting a group of civilians after the biggest trial in London police forces of the late 1970s.

The first officer charged by Countryman, a member of the City of London Police, had his case dropped at a magistrates' court. Prosecutions of another City detective and two Metropolitan Police officers both ended in acquittals last year.

Countryman was established in the summer of 1978 to investigate alleged links of corruption between the police and criminals in connection with three serious London robberies.

But the Countryman team rapidly found themselves on the receiving end of an array of other allegations, often made by criminals who said they could not trust the Complainants Investigation Bureau (CIB) at Scotland Yard.

Two of the cases Countryman brought to trial, including the one yesterday, arose from such allegations, which at one point pushed force, had the investigating team to almost 100 officers. Worried by security in London, the inquiry team moved its base to Gillingham, Surrey.

The inquiry became not only expensive but controversial, with allegations of obstruction. Early in 1980 Mr Arthur Hambleton, the retired Chief Constable of Dorset, publicly claimed that there had been attempts to block the inquiry, that the Director of Public Prosecutions had been too cautious and that 20 to 25 officers might eventually face prosecution.

A few months later control of Countryman was taken out of Dorset's hands and passed to Sir Peter Matthews, Chief Constable of Surrey, who established liaison with Scotland Yard. In the summer of 1980 the Yard said Countryman would be wound up within months. The investigating force had been cut to a quarter.

Last June Countryman's investigation of the Metropolitan Police was officially wound up. Deputy Commissioner Patrick Kavanagh said press reports had grossly exaggerated the situation. Many allegations had been made maliciously by criminals.

But the controversy refused to die, as the investigation had done. Last August, a Granada *World In Action* television programme claimed that there had been obstruction and that complaints had been made to Countryman to the Yard. Mr Hambleton told *The Times* that he supported the programme.

Beneath the battles between the senior officers there have also been claims and counter-claims from their juniors on each side. London detectives have said that the country officers were easily taken in, untrained in the ways of London, which has a unique crime situation.

For their part Countryman officers, many of whom are very senior and experienced detectives, say all detectives in whatever force receive the same training. The law is the law, regardless of the police force.

There are those who believe that the failures of Countryman will mean that corruption continues to thrive in London despite more than 100 CIB detectives.

But Countryman is not over yet. There is still at least one case to be heard in the next few months, and one Countryman source believes that further arrests are likely.

A skeleton team is still investigating the original investigations involving the City of London Police. Arrests by regional crime squads in connection with the three robberies may yet throw up results.

In the meantime the last word on Countryman has not been heard at Scotland Yard. When Countryman was wound up, the Metropolitan Police over 80 cases of alleged corruption were passed to a special squad set up within CIB. Twenty officers are still at work.

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The inquiry became not only expensive but controversial, with allegations of obstruction. Early in 1980 Mr Arthur Hambleton, the retired Chief Constable of Dorset, publicly claimed that there had been attempts to block the inquiry, that the Director of Public Prosecutions had been too cautious and that 20 to 25 officers might eventually face prosecution.

A few months later control of Countryman was taken out of Dorset's hands and passed to Sir Peter Matthews, Chief Constable of Surrey, who established liaison with Scotland Yard. In the summer of 1980 the Yard said Countryman would be wound up within months. The investigating force had been cut to a quarter.

Last June Countryman's investigation of the Metropolitan Police was officially wound up. Deputy Commissioner Patrick Kavanagh said press reports had grossly exaggerated the situation. Many allegations had been made maliciously by criminals.

But the controversy refused to die, as the investigation had done. Last August, a Granada *World In Action* television programme claimed that there had been obstruction and that complaints had been made to Countryman to the Yard. Mr Hambleton told *The Times* that he supported the programme.

Beneath the battles between the senior officers there have also been claims and counter-claims from their juniors on each side. London detectives have said that the country officers were easily taken in, untrained in the ways of London, which has a unique crime situation.

For their part Countryman officers, many of whom are very senior and experienced detectives, say all detectives in whatever force receive the same training. The law is the law, regardless of the police force.

Rights for patients detained in hospital

MENTAL HEALTH

The rights of mental patients, the public and of hospital staff who cared for them, were the subject of a Bill introduced by the Secretary of State for Social Services, when he moved the second reading of the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill.

Mr Fowler said the Bill did not seek to overturn the principles of the 1959 Act, which acknowledged that some mentally disordered patients presented problems which had no parallel among the physically ill. The new measure sought to build on the principles of that Act, and to take account of developments since 1959.

The Bill concerned the small number of patients, some 19,000 admissions a year out of 200,000, who had to be detained or made subject to compulsory conditions by way of guardianship. Detention in hospital became necessary where a patient needed care and treatment for his mental disorder for his own health or safety or the protection of others and when he was unwilling or unable to consent to stay in hospital voluntarily.

Detained patients were deprived of their liberty and where it was essential, and that there were proper rights of appeal, and that detention for treatment should be ended as soon as the need for it passed.

Secondly, detained patients were particularly vulnerable because of their condition and disturbed mental state. So their care and treatment must be safeguarded.

One of these considerations the progress made in improving services and general attitudes on mental health could be severely jeopardised.

A major change made in the House of Lords by the Government was the removal of the term "mentally handicapped" and its replacement by the term "mentally impaired". The purpose was to make it clear that for most mentally handicapped people the powers in the Act had no relevance.

One major reason for the confusion in the public mind of mental illness and mental handicap was that the two conditions were often confused under the Mental Health Act.

On the arrangements for compulsory admission, continued detention and guardianship, the Bill made a significant change in the conditions of admission and continued detention under the long-term powers. These criteria for detention under the long-term powers were to be determined or continued to be determined unless there was genuine need.

In addition to the test of treatability that was whether the patient was likely to benefit from treatment — the conditions were that the patient's mental disorder must be of a nature or

degree which made it appropriate for him to receive medical treatment in hospital, that it was necessary for the health or safety of the patient or the protection of others that he should receive such treatment and that it could not be provided unless he was detained.

The emergency provisions were used more than any other admission power. This was never the intention of the 1959 Act, and the time limit between examination and admission from 36 hours to 24 hours to help ensure that the patient was not used in a state of genuine emergency.

The Bill also affected detained patients already in hospital. The need to so might arise where the patient already receiving treatment for a mental disorder wished to leave hospital against his own best interests and could not be persuaded to stay. If this arose, the patient might be detained for up to 72 hours by the doctor in charge of his treatment.

The Bill provided for the replacement of mental welfare officers by approved social workers who would have to be specially designated and trained in the care of mental disorder.

Training and approval would be the responsibility of the local authority and they were now being consulted on this.

The Government attached considerable importance to this new concept of approval. It wished to ensure that there was a steady supply of well-trained social workers to undertake these duties.

The Bill made major improvements in the access to mental health review tribunals. These were independent of the health authorities, of the Department of Health and Social Security and were appointed by the Secretary of State.

Hitherto, only those patients detained under the longer-term powers had had access to the tribunals. Now the right of appeal was being introduced for patients under the 28-day power, under which about 6,000 patients were admitted each year.

On mentally disordered offenders, it was necessary to change Britain's law to take account of the recent judgment of the European Court of Human Rights. The new law would be able to apply direct to the mental health review tribunals for a review of their cases, and the tribunals were to be able to order the discharge of a restricted patient independent of the Home Secretary.

Offender patients would, like other detained patients, have more frequent opportunities to have their cases considered by the tribunals.

Most of the arrangements for the tribunals were being introduced while they were being considered to the work of the new special health authority — the mental health act commission — which would concentrate its

attention on the needs of detained patients.

The giving of treatment was a central issue in the Bill. It would be wrong to detain someone in hospital without providing treatment. Without treatment, hospitals that detained patients would become simply prisons under another name.

In the case of mentally disordered patients there should be a right to impose treatment. The Bill, for the first time, stated the general principle that where a detained patient could not understand the nature, purpose and the likely effect of the treatment, it should not be imposed on him except in the strictly defined circumstances set out in the Bill.

There were three sets of circumstances — the responsible medical officer could treat a detained patient for mental disorder without consent in emergencies; general nursing and other general care could be provided without the patient's consent; and treatment such as electro-convulsive therapy, medication and surgical treatment could be given without the patient's consent with the agreement of an independent psychiatrist appointed by the multi-disciplinary Mental Health Act Commission.

Even with these safeguards there would be certain treatment that could not be given unless the patient consented. That was the treatment which gave rise to the special provisions for residents who would be regarded as disadvantaged rather than an advantage.

It would be wrong if the general rule allowed to believe they would in some way endanger the people who would be living close to them.

Mr Fowler: There are plans in all but one of the regions to health authorities for regional secure units. We hope that by 1985 we will have 500 places in regional secure units available. Mrs Danwoody: It is not going to go far enough, but it is a considerable step forward.

Mrs Danwoody: Looking at the present financing situation of the NHS I have considerable doubt whether the plan will be adhered to. If we get 500 places in such a short time I will be extremely happy.

If patients were to ask to have their cases taken before the tribunals, would the minister give an undertaking that they would be able to do so?

There was clear evidence that the majority of the cases that went before the tribunals were not represented. Ordinary people who were not represented by the tribunals would be a burden of mental illness found themselves worried by the formal atmosphere of other tribunals. How much more would be a burden of mental illness found themselves worried by the formal atmosphere of other tribunals.

In some instances where there was not proper representation even the papers that were

attached great importance to having a high level of representation. Mr Ian Wigglesworth (Teesside, Durham, SDP): Considerable time, money and effort is being spent by places like Teesside in putting forward their case for having this plant in their area. The uncertainty caused by the delay is doing great damage. I urge the Government to make a speedy decision and end this uncertainty which has gone on for longer than any of us anticipated.

Mr Lamont: I am sorry that Teesside authorities should have spent money and been aggravated by the delay, but it is an extremely important decision and it must be for the Nissan motor company to make up its own mind in principle first.

Nearly £100m pledged for guarantees

The encouraging response to the loan guarantee scheme for small businesses was maintained, said Mr John MacGregor, Under-Secretary of State for Industry, said, by March 5, the latest date, 2,741 guarantees had been issued, in respect of £99,100,000 of bank lending.

The ceiling for lending (the total in the year to May 1982, is being raised to £150m and a further £150m will be made available for the following year. A preliminary review of the operation of the scheme is now being carried out.

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No overnight solutions to coal industry's problems

Opposition had no wish to impede the progress of the Bill which was in the interests of everyone who worked in the industry. He welcomed the increase in productivity but said there had been a price to pay in that fatal accidents had increased by 25 per cent since the incentive scheme had been introduced. He urged the Government to help to increase research into safety.

Lord Tanlaw (L) said that the industry wanted to see a strengthening of the coal industry. They wanted with increasing impatience, against a background of the Government's policy for the Government to agree a long-term capital programme which had to be implemented now if it was to be effective. They were worried about the lack of investment in the industry.

Lord Taylor of Gryfe (SDP) said that the fact that the National Union of Mineworkers was a democratic union and held secret ballots, instead of voting on the local football ground. The miners were encouraged to regard the running of the industry and meeting its targets.

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PARLIAMENT March 22 1982



Fowler: Treatment the issue.



Danwoody: Many omissions.

which needed to be clarified and extended.

They should look closely at the role of the nursing profession in relation to the Bill. Nurses were to be given wider powers, but Mr Fowler did not say he would be holding consultations with the various health professionals in order to spell out the conditions in which their new terms of service would operate.

The profession should be given specific written explanations of their legal responsibilities and the legal safeguards to their position. This would be welcomed in the six-hour holding power sounded adequate and was a definite improvement, but it might not always be adequate.

There were occasions in understaffed hospitals where nurses might face difficulties perhaps at the last minute. The minister should consider a break clause of say 30 minutes so it would be possible for the six-hour power to be used in a report, for example, was available to MPs.

The information gathered by the commission would be the best work it did would be best recorded in such a way that people other than health professionals and the Secretary of State had access to it. She hoped the minister would look closely at the matter.

A group of psychiatrists had suggested that the wording of the Bill in the situation could arise where a patient who was likely to become violent was admitted to hospital but could not receive medication from his own doctor until a second doctor had been found.

There would be considerable difficulties if it was not going to be possible either to give tranquilizers or to take, for example, simple things like blood tests in a case where there might be urgent needs.

The minister had upset organizations like MIND, which did not wish to see any provision in which a nurse could be given compulsory treatment, and he had not dealt with the practical problems of the medical profession.

The social worker would be required, in dealing with this category of patient, to have a great deal of expertise, to have undertaken a great deal of training, and the minister should say where the money was to come from for the training programme. Were there to be agreed standards, and if not, what would be the standards? The minister had spoken, what efforts would be made to monitor the creation of an efficient social worker force?

Mr Lamont (Kingston upon Thames, C): I am sorry that the discussions between the Department of Industry and the company took place in London last month. Some progress was made, but it was not enough to agree to the final decision of the board of Nissan will also (he added) depend upon the identification of a suitable site which has a successful outcome to discussions which it is intended should take place with the relevant trade unions.

Mr Miller (Bromsgrove and Redditch, C): The imbalance of trade between Japan and the EEC is a matter of considerable concern. There is, therefore, an urgency that the Japanese should make substantial investment in this country to offset that imbalance.

Is the Government doing everything possible to impress upon the Japanese the consequences of the fact that a further long delay in the decision might prejudice the conditions so far established?

Mr Lamont: Overseas investment is certainly one way in which the imbalance between this country and Japan can be rectified. I understand his anxiety that the negotiations with Nissan are prolonged, but it is an important project for them and it is natural that they should want to research it thoroughly.

He will not be too long before the final decision is taken.

Mr Stanley Orme, chief Opposition spokesman on industry, (Salisbury, West, Lab): Can he confirm that the disagreement between Nissan and the British component is about the content of that? What action is his department taking on this?

Mr Lamont: I do not think I ought to disclose what are the negotiations with the Japanese company. He was wrong and it has been said before, that local content is one of the matters we are discussing with them. We

attach great importance to having a high level of representation. Mr Ian Wigglesworth (Teesside, Durham, SDP): Considerable time, money and effort is being spent by places like Teesside in putting forward their case for having this plant in their area. The uncertainty caused by the delay is doing great damage. I urge the Government to make a speedy decision and end this uncertainty which has gone on for longer than any of us anticipated.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Terrorists kill two policemen

Madrid. — Two plain clothes police inspectors were killed instantly and a woman died on the way to hospital after four suspected Basque terrorists machine gunned them at point-blank range as they were having lunch in Sestao, the Bilbao suburb.

Two other inspectors, also lunching with their colleagues, were gravely injured (Richard Wigg writes). The shooting was the most violent act of terrorism so far this year in the Basque country.

One inspector shot back at the terrorists, injuring one, but a colleague later hauled him off as the gunmen escaped in a stolen car.

Tashkent trip for Brezhnev

Moscow, March 22. — President Brezhnev arrived today in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan and the leading city of Soviet Central Asia (Michael Binyon writes). Tass said that he will award the republic the Order of Lenin for its successes in growing cotton and other farm crops. Record cotton harvests in Uzbekistan over the past two years have been the one bright spot in the otherwise gloomy agricultural results for the country.

Tashkent is close to Afghanistan, and Soviet leaders, who normally make an important policy statement on a visit to a provincial capital, may launch new proposals for a political and military settlement in Afghanistan.

Private talks for Gandhi

Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, had an hour of private talks with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher at 10 Downing Street yesterday before they began wider talks dealing with trade, aid and defence questions (Our Political Staff writes).

The private session was later described by both sides as warm and friendly. Mrs. Gandhi briefed Mrs. Thatcher on the present situation in India and described India's relations with the Soviet Union and the United States. There was no indication that the question of sporting links with South Africa was raised.

Kidnappers face 30 years' jail

Verona. — State prosecutors demanded up to 30 years in prison and heavy fines for 17 Red Brigades guerrillas accused of kidnapping Brigadier-General James Dozier.

Thirty-year sentences were sought for Cesare di Leonardo, aged 23, and two of the eight defendants who have so far avoided capture. The lightest sentence — two years and eight months — was proposed for Ruggero Volinia, a 25-year-old "penitent" who has provided information led to the successful police raid on the Padua apartment in January.

Shoot-out frees 20 prisoners

Kampala. — Twenty prisoners escaped from the central police station here when Ugandan soldiers firing automatic rifles forced their way in to free a colleague, residents said.

Unconfirmed reports said that two policemen and two soldiers were killed when police refused to free the man and the soldiers began shooting. It was not known immediately whether the detained soldier was freed.

Foot and mouth scare over

Copenhagen. — Laboratory tests on a herd of sheep suspected of having foot and mouth disease showed that the animals did not have it after all, the Danish Ministry of Agriculture announced.

The test results helped to ease fears of an epidemic after it was diagnosed in a herd of 66 cattle on the island of Funen. No new outbreaks have been reported, but the herd of sheep was immediately destroyed after the symptoms were noticed.

Earth tremors leave 1,000 homeless

Naples. — More than 1,000 people have been left homeless by earth tremors across southern Italy. Some towns suffered damage to 80 per cent of their buildings, but only slight injuries were reported in the tremors that rocked a huge stretch of Campania, Basilicata and Calabria, the area hit by a devastating earthquake in 1980.

Diplomat murdered

Beirut. — Unknown gunmen shot and killed the third secretary of the Iraqi embassy in Beirut yesterday in the wave of violence against foreign diplomats in Lebanon. Police identified the diplomat as Ali Hajem Sultan.

Prisoner of Conscience

The regular Prisoner of Conscience column has been held over this week.

EEC tries fresh move to end budget stalemate

From Ian Murray, Brussels, March 22

A restricted session of Europe's foreign affairs council tomorrow will try to inject some urgency into the need to find a solution to the vexed question of how much money Britain should pay into the European budget.

It is now nearly three months since the question was due to be settled and two months since the foreign ministers last met to discuss the problem and there are no obvious signs that a solution is close.

At their last meeting on the subject the foreign ministers came tantalizingly close to an agreement, but since then positions seem to have hardened. Britain is still seeking an agreement of at least five years, with an automatic review at the end of that time. Every other country, save West Germany, wants the settlement to be restricted to no more than four years, with Britain receiving less and less benefit each year.

There is little enthusiasm among the majority of countries for the negotiations. There is even a vague hope in some quarters that Britain may find itself so isolated that it prefers to accept a limited deal rather than cause trouble in the Community at a time when the world is facing an economic crisis.

Certainly, most heads of government are reluctant to discuss the European summit in Brussels will want to discuss issues such as unemployment and not the size of Britain's EEC budget contribution.

Farmers' leaders are to meet in Brussels at the same time as the summit to urge a

quick settlement, and there are fears that planned demonstrations could, as in previous years, become violent if an agreement is not reached.

Greece today formally opened its campaign for better terms of membership of the EEC. It presented a 16-page memorandum to the foreign affairs council, which pleaded that it was a special economic case and should be allowed to deviate from Community rules.

The council accepted the paper, which was written in vague terms, and instructed the European Commission to study it.

A European foundation is at last to be set up by the EEC to help to generate jobs and improve cultural understanding in the Community. The project was agreed in outline in 1977, but since then has been gathering dust in the copious shelves of the community.

Today's foreign ministers' meeting, under the presidency of Mr. Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister, decided to give the project its approval and an agreement setting it up is due to be signed by the heads of governments at next week's summit.

Unemployment figures being used by the member states in formulating regional aid policy for Britain are two years out of date, according to a delegation from Barnsley which has just returned from a fund-raising trip to Brussels. (Ronald Kershaw writes).

Clark's quiet revolution

Foreign policy returns to the White House

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 22

A quiet revolution has taken place in the National Security Council (NSC) since Mr. William Clark took over as President Reagan's National Security Adviser after the resignation of Mr. Richard Allen three months ago.

With the minimum of fuss and publicity, he has — in the words of one of his officials — "brought foreign policy back to the White House".

Mr. Clark, who has replaced Mr. Allen's position, has taken charge of coordinating long-range security strategy, and perhaps most significant of all, he has managed to put a stop to the public feuding between Mr. Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and Mr. Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary.

The extent to which he has started to flex his muscles became apparent a week ago after the fiasco created by the State Department's presentation of a captured Nicaraguan soldier to the American press.

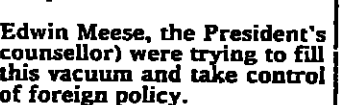
To ensure that similar débâcles are not repeated, Mr. Clark sent a memorandum to all Cabinet officials telling them that policy and public affairs are to be coordinated through an inter-departmental group and then submitted to the NSC for approval.

According to one White House source, Mr. Clark, a long-time friend of the President, sees his job as Mr. Walter Rostow did when he was President Kennedy's National Security Adviser — "to interpret the world to the President and President to the world".

Mr. Clark recognized that the President's acknowledged lack of expertise in foreign affairs largely explained why Mr. Haig and Mr. Weinberger (and to a lesser extent Mr.



Mr. Clark: In control



Mr. Haig: Departed

Edwin Meese, the President's counsellor) were trying to fill this vacuum and take control of foreign policy.

Mr. Clark has made it clear that the President (advised by himself) is ultimately responsible for all foreign policy and national security decisions, and not individual members of the Administration.

Some of Mr. Clark's directives have caused resentment. The State Department objected to an instruction that all Cabinet officials notify the NSC before taking foreign trips. The Pentagon has been equally unhappy about a ruling that the sale of defence equipment to foreign governments must be cleared by Mr. Clark's department.

While Mr. Clark's ability as a manager and administrator has begun to produce results, his skill as a policy-maker has still to be fully tested.

Some officials believed he would be content merely to streamline the system where the Administration arrives at its foreign policy decisions. However, he has made it clear he wishes his options to be listened to as well.

Yet Mr. Clark's lack of experience in foreign affairs continues to provide cause for concern. It is not forgotten that only a year ago he admitted during his confirmation hearings that he did not know the names of the Prime Ministers of South Africa and Zimbabwe.

EGYPTIAN OFFICERS ACQUITTED

From Our Correspondent, Cairo, March 22

A military court has acquitted 14 Army officers of Muslim militant tendencies, charged with plotting to overthrow the Sadat regime. Their lawyer, in an interview today, said he was preparing an appeal for the 22 convicted of assassinating the former Egyptian leader.

Mr. Abdel Halim Ramadan, who defended the 14 officers, in an interview with the Times, said he was confident President Hosni Mubarak would show mercy on the 22 officers because "he is starting a white page and would not want to tarnish it with blood".

The 14 officers, led by Major Essam-Eldin el-Kumari, were arrested between January and March of last year. Their trial was not reported in the Egyptian press because sources said the authorities preferred to avoid giving the impression there was opposition in the Army to Sadat. They were acquitted on Sunday.

Mr. Ramadan explained that the 14 did "not like the behaviour of the late President. They saw him as anti-Islamic".

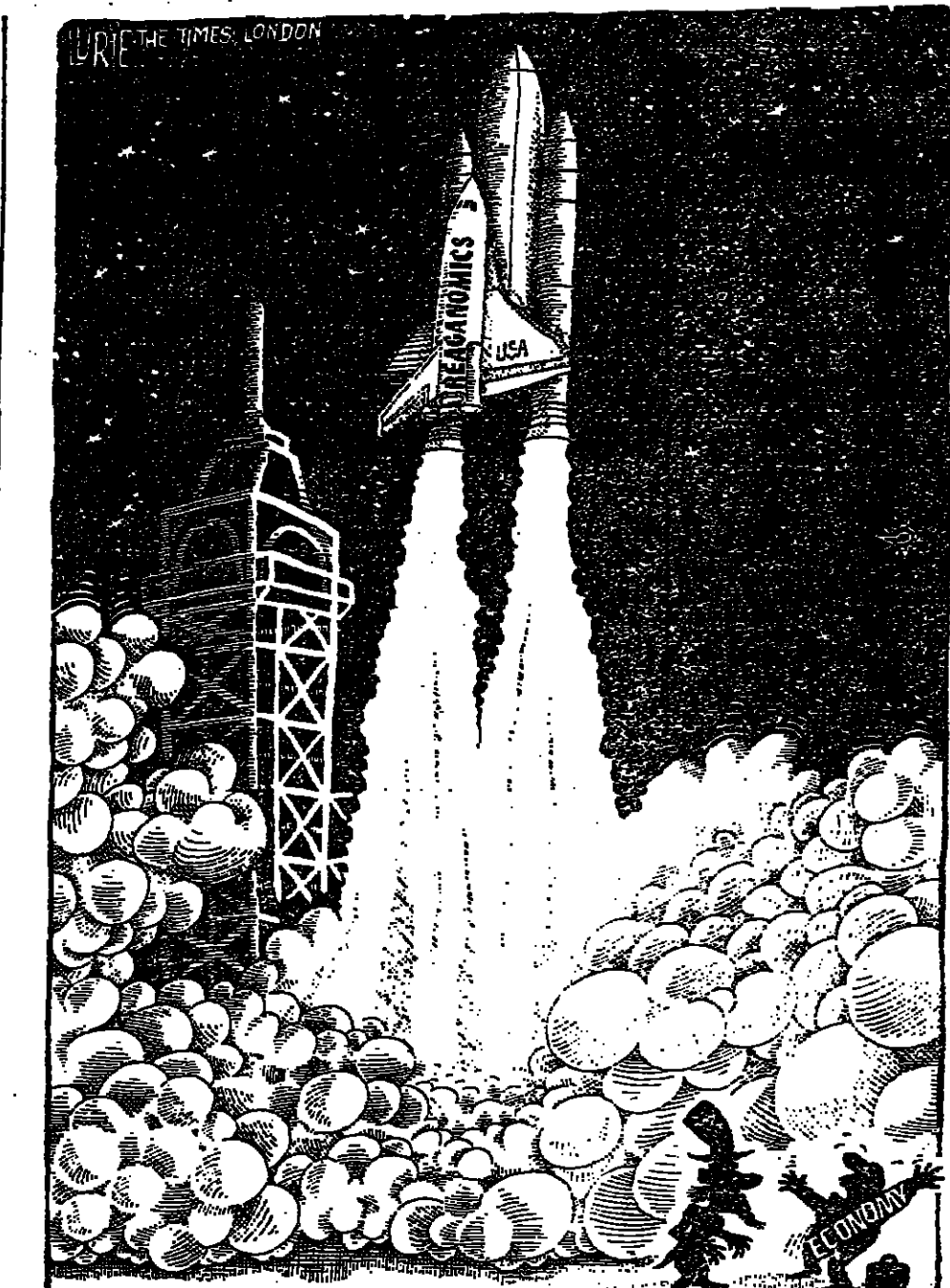
WALESA'S WIFE BEARS A GRUDGE

Warsaw, March 22 — Mrs Danuta Walesa said today she bore a "great grudge" against the martial law authorities for preventing her husband, Mr. Lech Walesa, the leader of Solidarity, the free trade union, from attending yesterday's baptism of their daughter, Maria Victoria.

"I never thought they would do that to us", Mrs. Walesa said by telephone from Gdansk, a day after the ceremony which generated one of the largest pro-Solidarity demonstrations in Poland since the imposition of martial law.

Archbishop Jozef Glemp, Poland's Roman Catholic Primate, has said in public for the first time that the Pope's visit to his homeland, planned for August, might be postponed. Church sources have suggested that the Pope would not come unless martial law was lifted.

Archbishop Glemp told a congregation in Torun: "We hope that the internal social situation will not pose obstacles to the Holy Father's visit to Poland. This visit is indispensable even if it becomes necessary to postpone its date". — AP and Reuters.



"But I'm the astronaut it was supposed to take ... remember?"

Haig steps up chemical war debate

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington, March 22

At least 10,000 people have been killed in South-East Asia and Afghanistan during the past seven years as a result of the use of toxins and other chemical warfare agents, according to a report which Mr. Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, sent to Congress today.

The report, which was also sent to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, directly links the Soviet Union with the use of these weapons. The conclusion is inescapable, the report states, that toxins and other chemical warfare agents were developed and supplied by the Soviet Union to Laotian and Vietnamese forces operating in South-East Asia and that Soviet forces have used a variety of lethal chemical weapons, including nerve gases, in Afghanistan.

Introducing the report to the press today, Mr. Walter Secrest, the Deputy Secretary of State, accused the Soviet Union of flagrant and frequent violation of the 1925 Geneva protocol for bidding the use of chemical weapons in war and the 1972 Convention outlawing all forms of biological and toxin weapons.

The State Department's 32-page report is the most detailed and extensive accumulation of evidence since reports first began filtering out of Laos in 1976 that Lao and Vietnamese forces, under Soviet supervision, were using lethal trichothecene toxins and other chemical agents against villagers resisting government control.

Since then a number of attempts have been made by the United States to direct international attention to the use of these weapons in South-East Asia and Afghanistan. However, as report notes, doubts have continued to persist as to the conclusive nature of the available evidence.

The United States now clearly feels it is in a position to dispel those doubts. The "compelling evidence" in the report includes tables listing over 6,310 deaths in Laos from 226 chemical attacks since 1975; 981 deaths from 124 attacks in Cambodia since 1978; and 3,042 deaths from 47 attacks on Afghanistan since 1979.

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Speculation about such a meeting was sparked off by an interview President Kaunda of Zambia gave last week to a South African newspaper saying that he would like to discuss both the "explosive" situation in South Africa and the Namibian issue with Mr. P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister.

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Argentines hoist a flag on Falklands

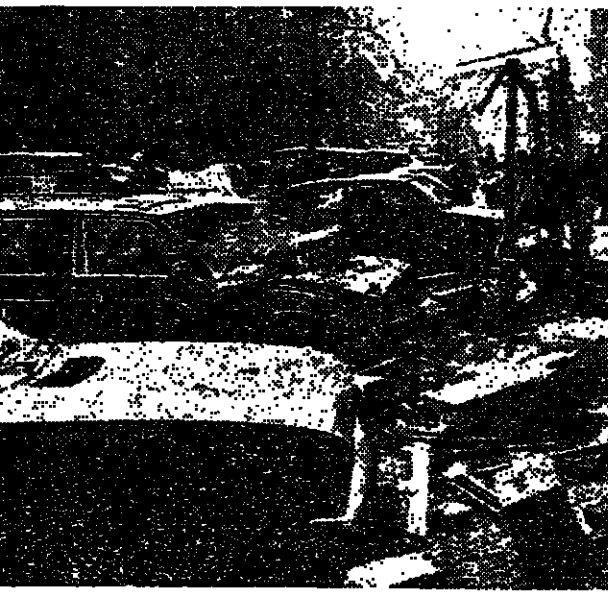
By Simon Scott Plummer

About 50 Argentines landed illegally on an outlying part of the Falkland Islands, a British colony in the South Atlantic, and hoisted an Argentine flag, the Foreign Office said yesterday.

The group, which arrived in a ship chartered from the Argentine Government, had a commercial contract to remove scrap metal from an old whaling station at Leith, on South Georgia, about 1,400 miles east of the Falklands archipelago.

The British Antarctic survey team at Grytviken, on South Georgia, reported the arrival of the Argentine group on March 19. They were asked to leave immediately and to seek permission from the British authorities if they wished to continue their work.

The British Government, which is in dispute with Argentina over the sovereignty of the islands, sought clarification from Buenos Aires and was informed that the party had left South Georgia on March 21. Yesterday, Whitehall was awaiting confirmation of this from the British survey base.



Two maimed in blast

Wreckage strewn across a Berlin street after a blast ripped through the fourth floor of an hotel yesterday. An Ethiopian woman guest lost both hands and her male companion had his lower leg blown off. Both were guests at the

Colombian guerrillas kill six in ambush

Bogota, March 22. — Six soldiers and 12 guerrillas died in clashes in various parts of Colombia over the weekend, an Army spokesman said today.

The clashes were the worst outbreak of guerrilla violence in rural areas since the Government offered an amnesty to guerrillas last February, he said.

About 80 guerrillas of the M-19 movement ambushed an army convoy after dynamiting a road and a bridge leading to the town of Floridablanca. An officer, five soldiers and three guerrillas were killed in the fighting. In actions west and north of Bogota army patrols killed nine M-19 guerrillas.

A Defence Ministry report said guerrillas occupied the village of Santa Ana De Las Hermosas in the department of Cauca for a few hours on Sunday. One hostage was taken, but no casualties were reported.

The M-19 is the most prominent of several movements fighting to topple Colombia's elected Government. It rejected the amnesty as being too limited — Reuters.

San Salvador: The Salvadoran capital was gripped by fear and anxiety today as the military prepared for and expected surge in guerrilla activity in the run-up to next Sunday's constituent assembly elections (Reuters reports).

News rumoured that columns of guerrillas were heading for the city. Officials denied it, but said they were expecting renewed guerrilla attempts to sabotage the elections.

Last night sporadic gunfire and explosions were heard in Santa Ana City, 40 miles from San Salvador. Shots were also heard in Soyapango near by, but there were no reports of casualties.

Military sources said the head of a village civil defence unit, his wife and six children were killed by guerrillas yesterday at Piedra Azul, 70 miles from the capital.

Residents of Triunfo, in Usulután Province, said about 300 guerrillas occupied the town for two hours on Saturday after killing five civil defence guards. Before leaving they threatened townspeople with reprisals if they voted in Sunday's elections.

Los Angeles: Americans do not want the Government to send troops to El Salvador because the fighting may end up as a Vietnam-type war, according to a Los Angeles Times opinion poll (Ivor Davis writes). Although those polled were worried about growing involvement, there was no agreement about what should be done about the conflict.

Nearly a quarter of those interviewed said the United States should persuade the Salvadorean Government to negotiate with the insurgents. A little more than a quarter said all United States support should be stopped, and 18 per cent believed Washington should continue its support at present levels.

Only 6 per cent favoured sending troops to intervene

Sandinista regime runs into a fusillade

From Paul Ellman, Managua, March 22

Market women, political leaders, members of the Roman Catholic hierarchy and journalists together represent the opposition to Nicaragua's ruling Sandinista regime. Despite the diversity of their backgrounds, they have a number of points of view in common. They are determined, above all, to stay in Nicaragua and test to the limit the Sandinistas' claim that they accept political pluralism and are not trying to impose a one-party Marxist state on Nicaragua.

The opposition inside Nicaragua is also united in rejecting the activities of right-wing guerrillas. They fear that these groups are fighting to restore a dictatorship similar to one led by the late General Anastasio Somoza Debayle, which was overthrown in July 1979.

It also suspects that the United States, despite its professed aim of aiding democratic forces, would not be averse to sacrificing the internal opposition in order to show that the Sandinistas really want to create a society modelled on Cuba.

Last week, just before the Sandinistas declared a state of emergency against the alleged threat of an imminent invasion, the women who run the stalls at the busy eastern market in Managua were outside the Casa de Gobierno (Government House) here, protesting that the Government was trying to take away part of their freedoms.

They were complaining at a decision to ration sugar through Sandinista militia posts was cutting into their business. "We fought against Somoza, too", one woman shouted at the militiamen guarding the door to the government building.

Political groups are also expressing growing unease at the direction of events.

"I supported the state of emergency because, for a government, whenever you have the things that are happening in Nicaragua, it is logical reaction to try have better control", said Señor Alfonso Robelo Calleja, leader of the country's biggest opposition party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, and head of the Democratic Coalition.

Señor Robelo was a member of the junta which heads the Government, but he resigned in 1980 in protest at the left-wing policies imposed by the Sandinistas. He said he thought that the Government has gone too far in imposing tight press censorship. "I am ready to defend the country, but not the party," he said.

He gave a warning that the United States, by putting pressure on the Nicaraguans, was provoking a nationalist reaction which was strengthening the Sandinistas and helping to justify the "militarization" of the country.

His views were echoed by the Archbishop of Nicaragua, Monsignor Miguel Obando y Bravo, who has trodden a delicate path since the overthrow of Somoza's dictatorship.

Mr. Obando contrasted the "ecstasy" which prevailed in the country when the dictatorship was toppled with the "tension" which exists now. In an interview he warned that the Church could not accept a Marxist society in Nicaragua.

The atmosphere at the only newspaper which has consistently opposed the Sandinistas, La Prensa, is one of deepening gloom over press censorship.

Although it is close to apostasy here to say so, La Prensa is as powerful a symbol of opposition to the dictatorship of the Somoza family as General Augusto Cesar Sandino, the guerrilla leader who fought against the rule of the United States 20 years before the Somozas took power.

The assassination of its publisher, Señor Pedro Jorjua Chamorro, was the catalyst in 1978 for the revolution which toppled the regime. Since then, La Prensa has maintained its role as principal critic of the Government.

Last week, however, it was reduced to publishing the same exhortatory headlines and stories as the two pro-Government newspapers.

Cardinal pleads for squatters

From Gerald Shaw, Cape Town, March 22

Dr Piet Koorhof, the South African Minister of Cooperation and Development, has been asked to help 54 black squatters who are on hunger strike in St George's Cathedral here against laws that led to the Sharpsville shooting, the twenty-second anniversary of which fell yesterday.

The squatters, many of them women with their children, are seeking permission to be Western Cape, which is contrary to the influx control regulations and pass laws.

Squatters from the Transkei homeland may be deported there, while others face fines or imprisonment. Many of the protesters come to the Cape to be with their husbands, who are contract workers in Cape Town and who are not allowed to bring their families with them. The women

say they see their husbands only one or two weeks a year. There is no work in Transkei, they say, and their husbands have no choice but to become contract workers.

Among those in the cathedral is Mr. James Ndela, aged 40, a father of five who has lived in Cape Town since 1965 and has been sent back twice. He returns "because we are starving. There is no work and no money in Ciskei". Another protester Mrs. Nowayiles Hozza, aged 32, has five children and came to Cape Town in 1969. Her husband has worked there on contract since 1964. Before she joined him, she saw him one week in a year, she said.

Mrs. Helen Suzman, a prominent opposition MP, has appealed to the Archbishop to grant a moratorium which would legalize the

position of the squatters and free them of their fear of arrest and deportation. Churchmen led by the Archbishop of Cape Town, have been Dr. Looorhof and appealed to him to assist the squatters. The minister has insisted that they should first leave the cathedral and abandon their fast. Attempts to mediate are continuing.

The squatters have agreed on medical advice to take fruit juices and vitamins. Two women have been treated in hospital for high blood pressure and a pregnant woman has lost her baby.

The squatters have been housed: last week a white man spread a foul-smelling liquid in the cathedral. The Anglican Dean of Cape Town, the Very Rev. Edward King, has locked the cathedral at times as a precaution.

Botha welcomes Zambian offer of summit talks

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, March 22

White-ruled South Africa, treated almost universally by black African states as a pariah, may soon hold a summit meeting with Zambia to discuss both the racial problems in South Africa and the future of negotiations on the independence of Namibia (South-West Africa).

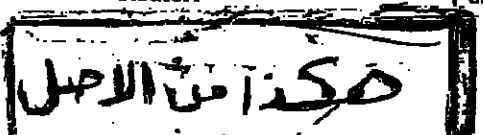
Speculation about such a meeting was sparked off by an interview President Kaunda of Zambia gave last week to a South African newspaper saying that he would like to discuss both the "explosive" situation in South Africa and the Namibian issue with Mr. P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister.

Mr. Botha quickly responded by saying that his Government had "always been willing to discuss matters of common concern with leaders of other countries". He

has not so far said any more, but it is thought he would jump at the chance of breaking out of South Africa's diplomatic isolation in black Africa.

It was Dr. Kaunda who, in the considerable irritation of other black statesmen, initiated the historic talks in the mid 1970s with Mr. John Vorster, Mr. Botha's predecessor, in a train on a bridge over the Victoria Falls.

In a statement to another South African newspaper last night, Mr. Mlimo Punabantu, one of Dr. Kaunda's top advisers, said the President was pleased Mr. Botha had been so positive to our approach, for that augurs well for future negotiations on matters relating to a summit meeting; but he added that the next move was up to Mr. Botha.



The open hand and the clenched fist that will greet the Pope on his visit in May

Caught in the grip of Rome fever

by Clifford Longley
Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England knows the symptoms of "Rome fever", a condition which from time to time carries off a promising young man to another world, there possibly to seek conditional reordination to the priesthood if he is single, life as a schoolmaster or bus driver, perhaps, if he is married. It is a condition sometimes compared to falling in love, and is viewed with a certain condescension both by those who have never caught it and those who have got over it. It consists of an absorbing interest in things Roman Catholic, and its usual result is conversion to Roman Catholicism. But, in this age of ecumenism, Rome fever has begun to present itself in a new form. There is a substantial section of the clergy of the Church of England — some would put it as high as 10 per cent — who have at some time in the past decided that the complete Christian life demands communion with Rome but who have stayed put in their native church to urge the whole body of Roman Catholics, some say they were told to stay in the bosom of Anglicanism, when they sought counsel from a senior Roman Catholic or Anglican divine, to do precisely that.

It is in such churches of the Church "by law established", that one can hear in the course of High Mass (celebrated by the Roman rite) prayers for the welfare of "our Holy Father Pope John Paul II". If one listens long enough, one can hear this same expression spoken openly from the floor of the General Synod of the Church of England.

For a larger body of Anglicans, perhaps, some where between 20 and 40 per cent, Pope John Paul II is already "our Pope", and for a larger body still there is the devout hope that he will be that one day, if the day is not quite yet.

Pope John Paul's visit to England, and particularly his

attendance at Canterbury Cathedral, is for such Anglicans those who use the name "Catholic" of themselves, intensely exciting. Their guest at Canterbury is, in their eyes, far more than just the leader of another great church. His person and his presence symbolize that word "Catholic".

"I feel it will be the end of a long exile, a home-coming, for me", one Anglican priest remarked recently. He admitted that he would have become a Roman Catholic long ago if he was not convinced that the leaders of his own church shared his commitment to church unity, and he is one of many who have said they would still do so if some decisive act, the ordination of women, say, put off the realization of that goal for one more generation.

The remainder of the Church of England is, one would judge, more or less aware of this strong current towards Rome, and rather nervous that Rome fever, a chronic irritant of Anglicans, might develop into its more acute form, "Pope fever", as a result of that visit.

There are still parts of the Church of England where the expression "Christian" means Anglicans and Non-conformists, and Roman Catholicism is another form of religion altogether. Does not the Roman Church believe in salvation by good works, in worshipping the Virgin Mary, instead of Christ, in insisting that only a priest can mediate between man and God, that the Pope is an alternative rival power to the British state?

These are the tenacious suppositions of English Protestant folklore, extraordinarily widespread in the population and repeated over and over again in letters to the press. The answer to the question is that Roman Catholicism nowhere teaches any of these things.

In the extreme form of this attitude the Pope is Anti-

Christ, the demonic personality of the Book of Revelation. There are even Anglicans, though probably very few, who would not sit down to dinner with a Roman Catholic priest. In such cases the Pope's coming visit is a matter of utter dismay.

In other words, the alternative face of Anglicanism to "Rome fever" is "Rome fear", an equally intense absorption. And between the two poles are the many men and women of the middle ground, and some would confess to a slight touch of fear and fever simultaneously.

This is beginning to make the Church of England an extremely difficult body to lead, and explains why every bishop who has uttered in public on the subject has tried to balance his words of warm welcome with an inevitable statement of something really rather obvious — that he does not agree with the Roman Catholic Church about everything.

To be "The Lordship Facing Both Ways" is the only possible option, if the show is to go on. But there is not a bishop in the realm whose comments on the papal visit have conveyed even a hint of the bitter sixteenth-century invective of the 39 Articles of Religion.

It is said that as many as 30 Anglican bishops were planning to attend the Pope's Whit Sunday mass at Coventry airport, until someone at the top stepped in to suggest the gesture was becoming a little excessive. And this is a high, sung, papal, Roman mass, that which is called "a blasphemous fable" in those same 39 Articles.

The Pope's visit, in fact, is not the Church of England at all except for the Saturday morning excursion to Canterbury, and neither is it a visit to the British people at large. It originates in the remarkable national congress of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales which



took place in Liverpool in 1980, and which marked the transformation of English Roman Catholicism from being one of the most conservative branches of that church in all of Europe to being one of the most avant-garde.

Although the Pope is sternly conservative on all issues of sex and married life, topics on which he and the Liverpool congress were miles apart, much of what he had to say about human rights and social justice would have appealed to his crusading humanitarian spirit.

The congress was the triumph of the progressives, to the distress of conservative Roman Catholics who are now planning to petition the Pope with a denunciation of Liverpool and the entire Roman hierarchy for allowing it.

The Pope was afterwards presented with the documentary fruits of the Liverpool congress by Cardinal Hume and Archbishop Derek Worlock, and asked, some time

vaguely in the future, to visit Britain to see for himself. He needed less persuading than they apparently bargained for, and will land at Gatwick airport on May 28, no doubt with a brief case full of speeches.

It will be a complicated encounter, quite unpredictable in its consequences on public opinion. Constitutionally, the Pope's presence in Britain will make no difference to anything, in spite of Mr Enoch Powell's stern warning last year that placing one papal foot on English soil was enough to dethrone the Queen in that instant.

It is more than likely that several millions will turn out to see him, and that television, radio, and newspaper coverage will reach levels of saturation equivalent to England winning the World Cup six days running.

Resentment also there is bound to be, and it is here that the unpredictable of the Pope's own conduct of his visit. He is, as Cardinal Hume said not long ago, very much his own

man. He is a master of the theatre of mass public spectacle, a genius at the improvised telling gesture, a law unto himself. He may be the guest of the Roman Catholic Church in Britain, but he is also in command of it, and therefore in command of his own visit.

He has the extraordinary gift of moving people, getting under the skin, triggering emotions in those who thought themselves well armed against whatever foreign magic they feared he might possess. It is the gift of being able to communicate himself, by passion, vulnerability, warmth, humility and conviction, qualities not seen in a world figure since Mahatma Gandhi.

So if one had to predict, at this stage, the nature of this phenomenon which will be visited upon the British public 10 weeks from now, its name would be Rome fever, Pope fever, writ large. Perhaps fortunately for everyone, the Roman Catholic Church included, in 11 weeks from now it will be over, and the fever will begin to cool.

How to give workers the profit motive

by Sir Raymond Pennock

The signs of economic recovery begin to take shape but there is still a question about British business which will be on everyone's lips. Politicians will ask because the answer could decide the next election, management will ask it because it could influence whether they stay in business, and trade unionists will ask because the answer could settle who is going to run the unions in the next decade.

Will our 1981 increase in the ability to compete against exporters prove an important through improved output per man and moderate wage settlements, be maintained and progress still further? Or will we, in time of up-turn, resume the muscular rituals which have directly led us in a world recession to have six Britons unemployed for every four in France and Germany.

Any discussion of this crucial question is usually dominated by what is happening today, next week or next month. But although this gives urgency to the question, it does not get to the heart of the matter and the heart of the matter is that in many parts of British industry, managers are not doing it right, nothing like good enough. Whatever the reductions in strike-free days may show, in far too many companies relationships between managers and managed are still based on suspicion and misunderstanding, and the managers are in a lack of knowledge of the economic facts which surround their mutual interests.

There is a misunderstanding about where the money to run the business comes from and how profits are distributed; often there is woeful ignorance about the performance of the company. There is too little involvement of employees in regular discussion of business performance and in contributing to decisions affecting business performance — an area in which much more time and effort must be spent. This priority rests on a philosophical conviction that in Britain, which is one of the most advanced "police-democracies" in the world, with a passion for individual liberty, you cannot expect people to behave differently within the factory fence, the office and laboratory.

Profit sharing is not so much an incentive for better performance as a method of creating employees' belief in and confidence in their company. I recall with relish the driver's first question when meeting me at Dartington or Runcorn station on an ICI works visit: "Why are the shares up (down) three and a half pence this morning?" or the AGU convenor who always opened up his division council contribution with: "Speaking, Mr Chairman, not as a union official or as a shop steward, but as a shareholder of this company..."

They both really felt that they belonged to the company and the company in part belonged to them. All this requires hard work, a genuine belief in the company, and to be told: "You are fortunate to work in ICI or BICC because there you enjoy good industrial relations." We don't enjoy good industrial relations; we have to work hard at them not just at the time of disagreement or when a strike is being called in and day out week after week, month after month and year after year.

The author is President of the Confederation of British Industry and chairman of BICC Limited.

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Now the real West Bank struggle begins

El-Bireh
A new element of unreality has been added to the still-deadlocked negotiations over Palestinian autonomy. The latest security crisis in the 2,200 square miles of the occupied West Bank is the most intense and politically significant since the territory's conquest in 1967.

The widespread use by Israeli troops of live ammunition to disperse crowds, the imposition of military curfews on more than 50,000 people in a single day and the erecting by Palestinians of burning barricades from Nablus in the north to Hebron in the south have further stretched the credibility of the next stage of the Camp David peace process.

Among even more moderate members of the 700,000-strong Arab population, the events of the last few days have increased suspicion and hostility towards the Israeli Government, which is now seen as determined to press ahead with its long-term aim of annexing the whole area.

This fear was reinforced by a tough speech made to the Knesset by Prime Minister Menachem Begin on Sunday night by Mr Ariel Sharon, the Defence Minister, one of the most determined "maximalists" inside the present coalition. He is also the chief architect of the new West Bank policy symbolised by the setting-up of a military-dominated "civilian administration".

Mr Sharon told his right-wing supporters that if Egypt and the United States were ever to deviate from the Camp David accords (presumably by spurning any autonomy scheme), Israel would also have to deviate from its law to what he described as "Judea and Samaria".

Though the Government has made no secret of its eventual goal of extending Israeli law to the area (the same euphemism for annexation used last December about the Syrian Golan Heights), the Defence Minister's speech spelt out a worry which has been nagging senior Egyptian officials for many months.

It is not surprising in such circumstances that the focal point of the Palestinian unrest should be the shabby town hall of El-Bireh, now stranded in the middle of a curfew area. There Lieutenant Colonel Bar-Kochba will have the task of trying to perform the humdrum daily administrative tasks of the dismissed Palestinian mayor with a reluctant staff — who yesterday were brought by police wagon but refused to work.

Until the curfew was enforced, the building had been the scene of repeated demonstrations by crowds of middle-aged Arab women, screaming a mixture of anti-



Ariel Sharon: a warning to Egypt and America

Israeli abuse and pro-PLO slogans. It gained further symbolic importance when Israeli troops shot and killed a 17-year-old demonstrator. The soldiers have already been cleared.

By removing the mayor, Mr Ibrahim Tawil, and his eight council members, the Israelis are throwing down the gauntlet to the majority of elected West Bank leaders, who since the last poll in 1976 have become more vocal in their support for the Palestine Liberation Organization. All have taken part in demonstrations with the civilian administration, the same attitude that led to Mr

Tawil's hasty removal from office.

Although the ensuing street protests were expected, observers were surprised by the extent and ferocity of the reaction by West Bankers. At a Northern Front, the harshness of some security measures helped to whip up emotion, but there was also a strong sense in the main towns and refugee camps that something beyond the routine protests of the past was called for.

The crisis was further inflamed by rousing speeches of encouragement from both Beirut and Amman, and Israeli experts moved quickly to jam broadcasts from the PLO's Voice of Palestine radio station. Mr Menachem Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, reacted by publicising a controversial message praising the Israeli troops on the ground for what he chose to describe as their "restraint".

Playing an important role in the wings were the rural Palestinians, members of the five West Bank village leagues which Israel has been assiduously cultivating since the Government returned to power last year.

The Israeli-backed leagues, recently promised another 60m from the exchequer for development projects, appear to provide the last chance for the Israelis to

find any body of "Arab opinion" willing to cooperate with their autonomy scheme. Without the benefit of elections, an accurate assessment of numerical support for the leagues quickly degenerates into a propaganda exercise rather than exact science. But experienced Western diplomats based in east Jerusalem dismiss the numbers as insignificant.

Despite Israel's encouragement, the leagues have so far produced only one credible leader. Mr Mustapha Dubeen, a former Jordanian cabinet minister who is nearly 70 and not in good health. He has acquired the disconcerting habit of referring to the Jewish Prime Minister as "His Excellency", but has not yet expressed any public willingness to take a working role in the autonomy plan.

The next few weeks approaching the scheduled hand-over of the Sinai are expected to see further Israeli action to undermine the influence of the remaining pro-PLO mayors, about 20 in all. Already Israeli ministers have been rewarded by the appearance of a deep split among the West Bank leaders about tactics following the dismissal of Mr Tawil.

While Mr Elias Freij of Bethlehem, the most traditionally conservative of the mayors, has condemned any

mass resignation as "playing Israel's game", Mr Karim Khalaf, the married mayor of Ramallah (and a close friend of Mr Tawil), has drawn up his resignation but not yet activated it.

One of the most disturbing elements in the new crisis has been the open involvement of armed settlers from the community of 24,000 Jews who now live permanently in the West Bank. What started as a rumour seen only by a handful of journalists suddenly emerged as fact when Israeli television showed a film of settlers in El-Bireh firing rifles alongside uniformed soldiers.

It was announced afterwards that the police had arrested a 37-year-old resident of the nearby Jewish settlement of Shiloh in connection with the death last week of Mohammed Suhraward, a 16-year-old Palestinian teenager murdered when he was shot through the forehead by a 9mm bullet close to the settlement. The settler, who cannot yet be named, is due to appear in court today.

Though the level of violence may soon subside again, the potential for conflict has been increased to a pitch which seems to have rendered the prospect of further serious bloodshed on both sides depressingly inevitable.

Christopher Walker

Why it's open forum on Palumbo's piazza

The governing council of the Royal Institute of British Architects will tomorrow debate Peter Palumbo's plans to erect a Mies van der Rohe building in the heart of the City. Owen Luder, the RIBA president, says it is the first time in living memory that an individual scheme has been discussed in this way.

Palumbo, head of a family development group, is what the architectural profession calls a "Miesling". He is the owner of Mies's Farnsworth House in the United States, and has patiently nurtured, for the past quarter century, his scheme to build a 290 ft tower block designed by Mies, who died in 1969, next to the Mansion House. He has spent much of the time collecting titles to the site, and revealed his final plans only last month.

The scheme has already aroused fiercer controversy, pitting both conservationists and post-modernists against the modernist friends of the Bauhaus movement. The Mies men have a famous motto "less is more" to which the post-modernists retort "less is a bore". Marcus Binney, chairman of the Save Britain's Heritage Group, complains that the design will be 30 years old before it is built, while comes quietly from one devoted to salvaging designs which are centuries older still.

From the man in the street's point of view, the most important

Bad lines

The Belgian Government is enlisting schoolchildren to fight telephone box vandalism. A scheme unveiled this week invites children to "adopt a kiosk" and so to make sure that it operates properly. Young foster-parents of vandalized telephones will receive a reward at the end of the year.

The day the scheme was announced, dozens of telephones in central Brussels were smashed by steelworkers demonstrating against Government austerity measures.

Rhyming slangers

An opportunity occurs tomorrow for MPs to introduce a little poetry into their lives with what the Poetry Society says will be the first public poetry reading in the Palace of Westminster for more than five years.

Sponsored by Norman Buchan, the Scottish ballad-loving member for West Renfrew, Poets at Westminster features Gavin Ewart, C. H. Stinson and John Cooper, all of whom are reading in the House of Commons is supported by the society and Eddie Linden, the editor of *Aquarius* magazine.

THE TIMES DIARY



The Adam Smith Institute has just invented a detector for political rising damp. The institute has analysed the parliamentary divisions over the past two sessions, and calculated for each MP an ASI rating. Low scores show a voting record for centralized care and provision (winners Terence Dale and Willie Hamilton), high indicate a voting record in favour of individual freedom of choice (champions Michael Brown and Michael Brotherton). Of the 12 SDP founder-members, 10 score between 35 and 45 "showing consistent ideology". Of the next nine to join only two fall in the same range — betraying ulterior motives, it is hinted.

Those to much could be the Tory wets, a low-scoring group of Conservatives who overlap with Labour areas of the index. Peter Bottomley, with 40, scores lower than two Tribune group members and 26 Labour and SDP members. Bankers include Norman Macmillan, Nicholas Scott, Sir William van Straubenzee, Kenneth Baker, Robert Hicks, Hugh Dykes and Douglas Hurd.

Anatoly again

Soviet political leaders have a reputation for longevity, and it applies to their diplomats as well.

This week Anatoly Dobrynin is celebrating his 20th anniversary as the Kremlin's man in Washington. He went to the US at the height of the Cuban missile crisis and now finds himself in the midst of a similar confrontation, with the Soviet Union hinting that it may again consider deploying missiles in Cuba if the US goes ahead with its plans to install medium-range missiles in Europe.

Dobrynin had seen five administrations come and go while he has held court at the Soviet Embassy just up the road from the White House. During that time he twice defeated Zbigniew Brzezinski, President Carter's

Going loco

On Thursday George Adler, vice-president of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, will unveil a plaque on the Dux Cow Hotel at Dunchurch, near Rugby, to commemorate an orgiastic dinner held there in 1837. The sixteenth-century coaching inn, whose snug Guy Fawkes is supposed to have hatched the gunpowder plot, was also the venue at which George and Robert Stephenson, the founders of British Railways, celebrated the completion of the Kilsby Tunnel on the London to Birmingham railway.

The company took their places at 5.30 pm, there was fixed

determination in the faces of all the party to be completely happy, the applause for toasts to the railway pioneers was deafening and many present, including the Stephensons, were moved to tears. The drinking lasted all night — "some few choice spirits" the contemporary report says, "heard the clock strike eight".

The Stephensons were the first presidents of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, which still hold seminars at the Dux Cow. The unveiling takes place during one of these, and though Adler will commence the ceremony at 5.30 it is not to be supposed that many modern engineers will carouse through the night.

Wet sayings

Lionel Smith, an agricultural meteorologist, has been maintaining his interest in the subject during his retirement, monitoring the truth or otherwise of weather lore. Alas, much of it turns out to be plain nonsense.

Our forefathers, says Smith, really had only two ideas about the weather one, that it would go on much as before; the other that it was bound to change. So there are two sets of sayings, one predicting continuation of the weather from a chosen date, such as St. Swithin's Day, and the other based on a principle of compensation, such as "Christmas white, Easter green."

Smith quotes the saying "as May so the following September", and the weird notion that the 12 days of Christmas each predict a month of the coming year as examples of folk silliness

about the weather. Better able to examine it: "If Candlemas (February 2) bring cloud and rain, winter has gone and won't come again." That has proved true for southern Britain this year and works, according to Smith, seven times out of 10.

Court scenes

Two of those involved in the Bar Theatrical Society's forthcoming production of *Measure for Measure* are former professional actors. Frank Abbott, a West Country barrister playing Pompey, a bawd, was previously straight man to Roy Hudd and Mike Yarwood; David Webster, QC, the play's producer, was James McPherson, a police cadet in Dixon of Dock Green.

There is, I am bound to say, a Church of Scotland riposte to the *Women's Institute* game employed by the Bishop of Truro which I quoted last week. The Scottish version runs: "O Lord, grant that we may not be like confetti, light and brittle and cold, but like porridge — warm, comforting and full of natural goodness."

Sanguine advice

PHS is grateful to a reader, Anthony Perry of London W11, for a rather bloody tip. He suggests that blood donors cross the Channel before parting with their vital substance. In England the reward is an institutional cup of tea and a biscuit. In France a small buffet is laid out — restoring red wine and a selection of sausages and cheeses. Of course, if you prefer cash, you have to give blood in America.

Women first

The Supreme Court of Canada, which in 1928 ruled that women could not be appointed to the Senate because they were not "persons" under the law, has appointed its first woman member.

Bertha Wilson was born in Kirkcaldy, Scotland, emigrated to Canada 34 years ago and has been an Ontario Court of Appeal judge since 1975. Her appointment marks a victory for women's groups, who just beat that other minority group, the Francophones, who wanted a bilingual justice appointed.

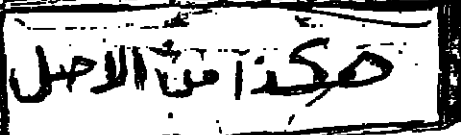
Clacking on

Christopher Daniels is spending the vernal equinox clacking about the tower of St Margaret's, Westminster — the MPs' church. The tuning the sundials which are to be mounted over its redundant and almost indecipherable clockfaces. I would say St Margaret's was in the shadow of Big Ben and Westminster Abbey if that did not unfairly suggest that Daniels is wasting his time.

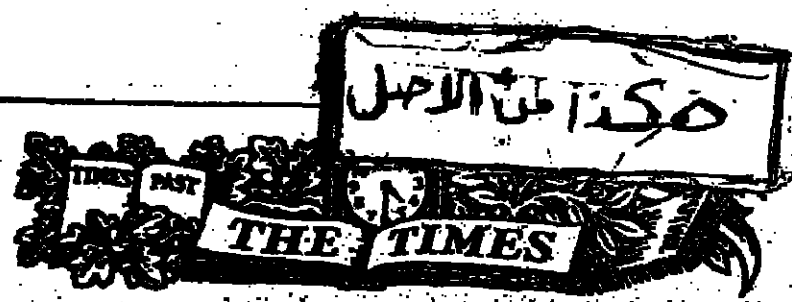
As it is, the proximity of Big Ben suggested to an anonymous benefactor that there was no room in repairing the church's eighteenth century clock which has not worked for the last half century. The new sundials he is giving instead will be illuminated with a religious text, and should brightly brighten the appearance of the tower.

The dials, Daniels will ensure, will be completely accurate to anyone who can read them.

PHS



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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE AGE OF THE CABLE

After a period of nervous doubts and hesitation within Whitehall and the broadcasting authorities, Britain seems finally prepared to embrace the new era of cable television. It is, as the reaction to yesterday's publication of the report by the Cabinet Office's information technology advisory panel has clearly shown, no longer a question of whether but when and how. Within four or five years most people in Britain could be wired up to local cable systems capable of transmitting 30 channels or more of entertainment and information. The impact of the range of programmes available to the viewer is strong enough. But even greater may be the impact of a system capable of providing the consumer with instantaneous two-way communication with his bank, his shopping centre, or his library. The age of the wired society is arriving. The money is there. The consumer need and the technology are there. No one should underestimate the importance of the fact that the BBC, those doubters in the past, have now swung round to the view that it will happen more widely and more speedily than they had initially been prepared for.

The crucial question now is how it will be regulated. The Department of Industry is obviously keen to get on with as little let or hindrance as possible, largely for the reasons stated in the report — that the British electronics as well as programming industry could suffer if the country falls behind the rest of the world in the introduction of cable systems. The Home Office, used to a traditional control through licensing of television, is more anxious to keep some regulatory authority.

If there is such a thing as a natural cycle of political change, West Germany's is now out of phase with the electoral cycle. Herr Schmidt's ruling coalition of Social Democrats and Free Democrats shows many signs of coming to the natural end of a long and very fruitful period of office. Yet the next election is not due until 1984, so the coalition is faced with the dispiriting prospect of regular setbacks in *Landtag* and local elections as the voters register their unrest through the only ballot boxes available to them.

Last Sunday's election in Lower Saxony was the first best since the federal election of 1980. It boosted the Christian Democrats from 48.7 per cent to a narrow absolute majority of 50.7 per cent. More significantly it brought the Free Democrats back into the *Landtag* with 5.9 per cent (in 1978 they failed to surmount the five per cent hurdle and therefore got no seats at all). It also brought in the dissident "Greens" for the first time with 6.5 per cent.

Local factors cannot be entirely discounted. Herr Ernst Albrecht, the Christian Democratic Prime Minister of Lower Saxony, is a strong and popular figure, though somewhat authoritarian. He is known as the "Führer" because of his leadership style.

When General Muhammad Zia-ul-Haq assumed control of Pakistan in July 1977, he announced that new elections would be held in October of that year and power returned to civilian hands. But the elections were called off two weeks before they were due, ostensibly because there were criminal charges against politicians which should be cleared up before the people were asked to make a political judgment. The deposed ruler, Mr Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, had to be exposed as a criminal, discredited and eliminated from public life before the public could be safely entrusted with the choice of its new leaders.

Mr Bhutto was duly executed, after a judicial process with all the appearance of a political witch-hunt, in April 1979. Elections were again scheduled for November of that year, but again cancelled at the last minute when General Zia concluded that they would not yield "positive results". This time political parties were banned, their leaders arrested, and strict censorship imposed on the press. Since then, although the objective of restoring democracy has not been formally abandoned and parts of Bhutto's 1973 constitution remain in force, General Zia has given priority in his speeches to the "introduction of an Islamic system", and has from time to time wondered aloud whether such a system is compatible with "Western-type elections".

Pakistan is at present governed by the "Provisional Constitutional Order" of March 1981, a document which has few parallels anywhere in the frankness with which it institutionalizes the unfettered arbitrary power of a single man. It declares, for instance (Article 4):

There are not merely arguments of vested interest, although it would be hard to deny that this has played the major part in the internal Whitehall debate so far. For a generation, and more Britain has run on a system of highly regulated television, based on a limited number of channels. It balances the rewards of a near monopoly franchise against the requirement to observe certain principles and standards in the programmes transmitted.

The importance of cable systems is that it removes the restraints imposed by scarcity of channels. Programming is no longer confined by channels or the need to go through a national network of companies as long as advertisers will buy space and consumers pay rentals, anything from a dozen to a hundred programmes could thrive. Television begins to resemble newspapers and magazines, which are born, live and die without licence and by courtesy of their readers. The analogy however is not exact. Television is altogether more intrusive in the home, capable of affecting children in ways that may be harmful.

It would be possible to allow development to take place without any further legislation or consumer protection, simply a reliance on existing consumer regulation and self-policing. Yet the Government, whether it likes it or not, must decide who is to own and operate the cables — is it to be done by British

Telecom or by any consortia of local interests licensed by the local authority? And it must decide who is to control the leasing of the lines — the local authority again, a new central authority, the Home Office or even a pan-European authority?

The one clear preference the government should show in approaching these decisions over the coming year should be for the maximum of freedom and the minimum of regulation. Given the need to get the development under way and given the nature of the changes that it will bring, there is no reason for giving British Telecom or any rival system of national communications a monopoly of laying the line. Local consortia can do this, under some control of technical standards. Nor is there any reason to believe that strict control of programme content is necessary when the viewer will have such a multitude of choices before him. Still less would it be acceptable, or workable, for local authorities to act the censor.

It is enough to keep the licensing of operators, and the threat of withdrawing a licence should they blatantly upse general standards. Just as it would be idle to treat the new world of broadcasting as merely an extension of the old, so it would be naive to think that programmers or manufacturers are yet ready to cope with a sudden explosion of cable systems throughout the country. As with local radio it should be phased and it should — during the initial phases at least — be responsible to a central regulatory authority with the power to dispose and expose. After that, licensing could be used only as the final sanction to general rules of decency and honesty.

Setbacks in the *Landtag* elections cannot in themselves unseat Herr Schmidt, but they can make life more difficult for him. If the trend continues it could increase pressure on the Free Democrats to become less cooperative in the coalition, and even possibly to leave it, though that is unlikely at the moment. And if the Christian Democrats manage to capture Hesse in the autumn they will have a majority in the federal *Bundesrat* (upper house) with which they could block legislation. West German politics are therefore heading into a difficult phase. The era of confident economic growth is over, but the consequences have not yet been digested.

Meanwhile, the voters drift around in search of relief from the sense of lost confidence and lost direction which now afflicts the country. The Free Democrats reap some of the benefit but more and more young voters move to the Greens. This loss of the young weakens the Social Democrats as much as the challenge of the Christian Democrats, and it worries the Christian Democrats too, because they are not gathering in the elections. They have a problem not only of leadership but of policies too. The young appear to be moving away from the central consensus which has held West German politics together for more than two decades since the Social Democrats dropped a lot of their Marxist baggage.

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Europe's part in the Alliance

From Sir Clive Rose

Sir, Sir Bernard Burrows (March 19) is surely right in rejecting the idea that Western European Union might serve as a forum for coordinating European defence policy. It is highly unlikely that all the existing members would regard the protocols on force and armament levels which were a necessary condition of Germany's accession to Nato and which are an integral part of the revised Brussels Treaty as a suitable basis for inviting the six remaining European members of Nato to join WEU. Indeed, even if the latter wished to join, the amendments required would have the effect of reopening issues which are better left as they were resolved in 1954.

Nor, however, does the political cooperation machinery of the Ten seem an appropriate forum for strengthening the European contribution to Alliance defence. Security, in its broadest sense, is not the same as defence. Consultation about defence policy would require participation of Defence Ministers, a radical innovation.

But what in practice would they do? The collective defence of eight out of the 10 is assured by their participation in Nato's integrated structure. For these eight decisions about strategy and defence planning are, and must continue to be, made in the Alliance, with the Americans and their other allies. A parallel European forum for such consultations, with at least one member whose forces are not committed to Nato, would be ineffective, and at worst would exacerbate divisions in the Alliance at a time when all our efforts should be spent on maintaining cohesion.

You dismiss "Eurogroup" because it is too technical and, being within the Alliance framework, does not include France. In fact it is exactly what the European Defence Ministers choose to make it. It is the natural forum for discussions about the European contribution to the Alliance, which was one of its original purposes. If France could attend, even perhaps as a guest, it would be welcome. But, given France's absence from the military structure, it is difficult to regard as indispensable her presence at discussions about how to strengthen the structure.

But more could, and should, be done to promote equipment collaboration in the independent European Programme Group and the Nato Conference of National Armaments Directors, in both of which France participates. The labours of these bodies have borne remarkably little fruit over the years.

Where the Ten can, in my view, make an important contribution to strengthening the Alliance and Europe's contribution to it is over political consultation. This applies particularly but not exclusively to the handling of East-West relations. A real determination to achieve agreed positions in political cooperation, and willingness on the part of each member to stick to them, would ensure that within the Alliance there was something which the United States could recognise as a "European view".

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE ROSE,
Chambers House,
Lavenham,
Suffolk,
March 19.

Made safe for England

From Major D. MacRae-Brown

Sir, You kindly published a letter of mine (July 19 1980) expressing my concern about the grave in Skyrros. At that time lorries were passing within a foot of the tombstone conveying rubble from a quarry at Tris Roubis Bay.

I have now just heard from HM General in Athens that the support of the Mayor of Skyrros and the local representatives of the War Graves Commission the lorries have been diverted to a new road outside the old olive grove where Brooks is buried. As the mayor predicted, the old bulldozed track has completely vanished under a carpet of wild spring flowers.

Judging by the interest shown by my last letter, I feel your readers might like to know that there will be a visit to the grave of Brooks' death.

Yours faithfully,
D. MACRAE-BROWN,
Friston House,
East Sussex,
March 19.

Diagnostic ill

From Colonel R. L. Bell

Sir, *Aedes aegypti* (photograph, March 6); 10/10 for photography but only 2/10 for entomology.

The photograph is of a male; males do not suck blood; females do not have bushy antennae, though they do suck blood; the male has a bushy antenna; it is supposed to assist in courtship and consequent propagation of the species. The male is a beautiful but blighted blighter.

Yours sincerely,
RORY BELL,
Commander Medical Services,
Headquarters North East District,
Connaught Barracks,
Fulford Road,
York,
March 8.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An 'honest broker' for seabed rights

From Professor D. R. Denman

Sir, The letter in your columns of March 17 from Dr Buzan and his colleagues at Warwick University, lamenting the attitude of the US Government towards the present draft Law of the Sea Convention, and Mr Michael Ivens's strong support on March 19 of the American call for a review, have brought to public attention the gravity of the question of the future ownership and exploitation of the vast mineral riches on the sea floor of the deep oceans.

The public in this country is most ill-informed of what is being debated by our Government and others at the third Law of the Sea Conference in New York at the present time. The Convention and its proposals to set up an international seabed authority (ISA) on collective principles with automatic powers is clearly not going to work. Nevertheless the convention itself is a most welcome idea and every endeavour should be made to establish it, subject to the necessary amendments, least those of the developing world.

Dr Buzan and friends write as impractical visionaries and Michael Ivens as a level-headed empiricist, but between them nothing has been advanced by way of an alternative policy.

May I suggest that if we are to have an ISA it should act as an honest broker between the nations and not as an absolute proprietor.

Nations and mining companies, including the international enterprise, should be free to prospect and exploit what they find. To obtain an interest with recognised security of tenure, prospectors would be required to:

1. Register their claims to titles with the ISA.
2. Pay a levy through their respective national governments to the ISA.
3. Undertake to enter into negotiations through the agency of the ISA for joint venture with the enterprise or with a developing nation, but with no compulsory obligation to transfer technology, provide training and so on.

The enterprise would compete freely in the world markets in the interests of its members, which would be exclusively the developing and disadvantaged nations. It would have immediate access to ISA funds and other sources but would not have exclusive rights to 50 per cent of the seabed area. It would be subject to all the levies and charges common to state enterprises and private competitors and would not have special exceptions and concessions.

The enterprise could be financed by the United Nations in the form of (i) direct grants; (ii) levies raised from the profits of deep-sea mining; (iii) unsubsidised loans provided by an international seabed development bank; (iv) its own earnings.

If the general policy of administration was free of objection, able to be implemented, and directed to help those nations which need aid to operate and compete in free world markets and if the

Pope and population

From Miss Barbara Smoker

Sir, As President of the National Secular Society, the main voice of atheist opinion in his country for the past 116 years, I would like to support the letter (March 11) from Canon Eric James, Honorary Director of Christian Action.

Standing, as we have always done, for free speech and free assembly we dissociate ourselves from the opposition of Protestant extremists to the papal visit itself, but we do not support the excessive media coverage that will obviously be given to the reactionary sentiments of John Paul II during his four-day tour of Britain, with comparatively little argument on the other side.

Indeed, Canon James, while rightly emphasizing the importance of the family-planning issue, very much understates the Pope's intransigence in the matter. It hardly does justice to the firm line taken by John Paul II to say that he "fails to face up to" the problems posed by overpopulation. He faces them — and dismisses them. In his "apostolic exhortation" *Humanae Vitae* (the English version of which was published just two months ago), the Pope argues (without any attempt to produce evidence) that the demographers and environmentalists have greatly exaggerated these problems and he unequivocally reiterates the sinfulness of all forms of birth control except "periodic abstinence".

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA SMOKER,
National Secular Society,
702 Holloway Road, N15,
March 11.

Local industry

From Mr D. F. Hodgson

Sir, The Green Paper on local authorities' support of industry (report, March 12) suggests that local councils which are not in control of recognized development areas should be restricted in their use of rates-funded grants and loans. It is argued that the efforts of these local authorities are undermining the work of the official development areas.

In Melton Mowbray, MIDAS (Melton Industrial Development Aid Scheme) was set up as a cost-effective joint venture between local authorities (Leicestershire county and Melton borough) and local industry, led by the town's leading employer, Pedigree Petfoods, with the aim of attracting small businesses to the town. Our business award scheme has already attracted nearly 1,000 enquiries and by the autumn we would have hoped to set up 50 new businesses in the town. That

constitution of the council explicitly included North America and Australasia there would be no grounds for the potentially highly committed nations like the USA to ask for powers of veto.

Yours sincerely,
D. R. DENMAN,
Pembroke College,
Cambridge,
March 20

From Mr R. C. Ogley

Sir, I am afraid that Michael Ivens, in his reply (March 19) to the letter from Dr Buzan and others, gives a demonstrably inaccurate picture of the present Law of the Sea Draft Convention. That convention, incidentally, has been the result of protracted negotiations in which states of all categories have participated.

In the first place, to speak of the industrialist being forced to "give away his secrets" is false. What there is, in fact, is a heavily qualified obligation on contractors to sell such technology to the enterprise, with commercial arbitration in the event of disagreement in terms (article 5 of annex II).

Secondly, to give the impression that the Eastern (Socialist) European Region is particularly favoured in the composition of the council is quite misleading. That region is assured of three seats out of 36; the West, of at least seven.

Moreover, far from having "absolute and exclusive control over the resources of the seabed", the seabed authority's power is strikingly limited. It cannot fix the financial terms of contracts; these are set out in the convention; it cannot reject an application for a contract except on certain specific grounds (article 6 of annex III); and then, if it has been approved by the legal and technical committee, only by a unanimous decision of the council. States or applicants who dispute its decisions will be able to appeal to an international Law of the Sea tribunal.

Thirdly, as even Mr Ivens seems to recognize, agreement is necessary if anarchy is to be avoided. One issue still before the conference is that of preparatory investment protection, to allow those that invest in the seabed, on terms comparable to those hampered out in the convention, to be assured that they will retain their rights to 50 per cent of the seabed area. This requires agreement of all parties, including developing countries. This is not likely to be forthcoming if industry is encouraged to think it can enjoy terms much more favourable than those the convention provides.

If Mr Ivens wants to help the seabed mining industry, I suggest he brings what influence he has to bear on the Americans to accept the other provisions of the treaty, in essence, as they stand.

Yours sincerely,
ROBERT C. OGLEY,
The University of Sussex,
School of Social Sciences,
Arts Building,
Falmer,
Brighton,
March 19.

Anyone reading this verbose document, issued by the Vatican so recently, cannot but recognise that its emphasis on the woman's domestic role, the sickness of homosexuality, the celibacy of the clergy, and the impossibility of divorce, as well as the absolute prohibition of artificial contraception and induced abortion, shows that we must go back four papal reigns, to that of Pius XII, to match the conservatism of John Paul II.

We in the National Secular Society do not intend, in Canon James's words, "to maintain a cultive silence on the woman's domestic role, the sickness of homosexuality, the celibacy of the clergy, and the impossibility of divorce, as well as the absolute prohibition of artificial contraception and induced abortion, shows that we must go back four papal reigns, to that of Pius XII, to match the conservatism of John Paul II."

We have also, in conjunction with a number of other organizations in the secular humanist movement, the women's movement, and the gay movement, set up an ad hoc committee, People Opposing Papal Edicts (POPE), to coordinate suitable non-violent forms of protest, not against the Pope as a visitor to Britain but against his repressive and social-harmful teachings. And since we are not taking an anti-Christian stand, we hope that progressive Christians — including progressive Roman Catholics — will stand with us to be counted.

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA SMOKER,
National Secular Society,
702 Holloway Road, N15,
March 11.

may not be startling in national terms, but locally it can be the difference between a thriving community and a dying one. Many of the areas which do not enjoy development status are now suffering rates of unemployment which, before the onset of the present recession, would have been regarded as extremely grave and worthy of urgent government assistance.

In the absence of that government assistance, many local authorities outside the development areas realise that there can be no alternative but to use every means at their disposal to encourage the growth of local industry and jobs. An attempt to restrict rates-funded grants and loans is only hinder that growth.

Yours faithfully,
D. F. HODGSON,
Director,
MIDAS,
Melton Mowbray,
Leicestershire,
March 18.

Plastic surgeon's hungry allies

From Mr D. Denner

Sir, Your recent news item on leeches (March 17) interests me because I have been using these hide creatures in my practice of plastic surgery for 30 years.

The bugbear of skin flaps is that blood stagnates in them and destroys them. The leech, with his two-fold skills, combats this, first of all by sucking out the first of all by sucking out the stagnant blood, and secondarily by injecting an anti-clotting agent called hyaluronidase into the wound made by his bite will still drip blood perhaps two days later. All of this helps the plastic surgeon very considerably.

Reasonably, therefore, one must be kind to leeches. They don't come from Hungary, as your informant suggests; they come from Africa. Don't you remember Humphrey Bogart climbing back into the African Queen with his back covered with leeches? Therefore they must be kept warm. Keep your leeches in a warm cupboard and periodically they are taken into the sunshine.

Long ago I knew a pharmacist who felt very keenly about his leeches. He would roll up his sleeve and feed them off his arm. I remember, still, watching the sensual peristaltic movements of these gleaming dark-green bodies as they engorged themselves, it would seem in a sort of haemorrhagic orgasm.

I have to be very careful with leeches, because each end is very alike. When you want a leech to bite you must present the right end. They like to sit on their bottoms and bite with their mouths. If, through anatomical necessity, you try to reverse the process you will end up with a resentful, sullen and dispirited leech.

My ward sister starts them off with milk or jam. She tells me that a little jam on the skin will start them off with enthusiasm, and many a skin flap in peril has been saved by these small, little-known simple creatures.

Yours faithfully,
D. DENNER,
Summerhill House,
Primrose Hill,
Oversey Green,
Near Alchester,
Warwickshire,
March 18

Whither the GLC?

From Mr Anthony Grant MP

Sir, You make it quite clear that your leader today (March 20) that London Transport is now beyond state subsidy with the GLC in control. I was one who thought the responsibility should never have been given to them in the first place. In 1967, however, the newly elected Conservative GLC were mesmerised by the offer of Mrs Barbara Castle, then Minister of Transport, to take over the debts of London Transport.

Full circle has now been turned and the Government will have to resume responsibility if the mess is to be cleaned.

If the Government is to do this, as I believe it should, what remaining useful purpose is carried out at County Hall? GLC responsibility for housing has passed to the boroughs. In the view of many ILEA (Inner London Education Authority) should be broken up, in which case the GLC has no education role. Its planning activity is largely duplication, which hampers development.

This might be just the moment to abolish an "empire" which is little more than a party political headquarters maintained at ratepayers' expense. Yours faithfully, ANTHONY GRANT, House of Commons, London, SW1, March 20.

Key to democracy

From Dr J. C. Allen

Sir, Mr Garfield Todd (feature, March 19) has got it wrong. The key to democracy is not that the people can vote for a representative, but that they can vote for a change of representative, and hence a change of government. This is not possible in a one-party state. See, for example, Soviet Russia, Poland, East Germany, Czechoslovakia, etc. In short, a one-party state is neither free nor democratic.

Yours sincerely,
J. C. ALLEN,
5 Burnham Drive,
Leicester, Leicestershire,
March 20.

Cold comfort

From Mr D. R. Fitzpatrick

Sir, One factor has been ignored in the discussion on the use of Westminster Hall by the visiting President: I mean the hyperborean cold of that gloomy, though numinous, place.

I can appreciate the fears of the Labour Opposition for the survival of the frail and elderly in its ranks — indeed, in its high command! Indeed, were the Prime Minister a more subtle, less straight-forward person, there might be cause for ugly suspicions.

The Royal Gallery, whose associations with the splendid trial scene in *Kind Hearts and Coronets* must surely appeal to President Reagan, would prove more actually comfortable and less potentially lethal.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
DESMOND FITZPATRICK,
Five Treas,
Barnet Common,
near Ripley,
Surrey,
March 17.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE

March 22: The Queen, with The Duke of Edinburgh, this evening honoured with her presence the Royal Film Performance, *Ent Under the Sun* in aid of the Cinema and Television Benevolent Fund (President, Sir John Davis) at the Odeon Theatre, Leicester Square.

Lady Susan Hussey, Sir William Heston and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance. The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the Westminster Abbey Trust, presided at a meeting of the Trustees at Westminster Abbey this afternoon.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, President of the Prince's Trust, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, visited St Patrick's Centre, Trinity Street, Huddersfield and the John Bostie Youth Centre, Philip Street, East Newcastle today.

Their Royal Highnesses, attended by Mr Francis Cornish, Miss Anna Beckwith-Smith and

Mr Michael Shea, travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight. The Prince of Wales, accompanied by The Princess of Wales, attended a concert to inaugurate the Festival of India at the Royal Festival Hall this evening.

The Hon Edward Adeane was in attendance.

YORK HOUSE

ST JAMES'S PALACE

March 22: The Duke of Kent this afternoon received His Excellency Colonel Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalifa Al-Thani of the State of Qatar.

His Royal Highness, Honorary President of the Royal Geographical Society, this evening attended a lecture, "Exploring Island Caves", which was held at the Society, Kensington Gore.

Captain Mark Bullough was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, president of the Mary Rose Trust, will drive on the site of the Mary Rose and subsequently attend a reception at the Guildhall, Portsmouth, on April 28.

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Mrs Margaret Thatcher with Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, outside 10 Downing Street yesterday before they settled down for talks

£18,700 for early Turner watercolour

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

An early watercolour by Turner of Dunstanborough Castle was sold for £18,700 at Phillips yesterday, almost doubling the auctioneer's estimate of between £8,000 and £12,000. It was bought by Agnew's of Bond Street, who rounded off a busy period of Turner buying; they paid a record auction price for a Turner watercolour at Christie's last week and at Sotheby's bought a vignette for well over its estimate.

Phillips had some difficulties with their watercolour sale, with 30 per cent left unsold. Albert Goodwin and Louis Rayner were among the few artists securing buoyant prices. Goodwin's "Afterglow - the Nile from Old Cairo", of 1909, was sold for £2,530 (estimate £1,500 to £2,500). To A. Spink and Rayner's "The Market Cross, Salisbury" made £2,970 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500).

At Sotheby's sale of books from private presses prices were slightly off the boil but there were still plenty of buyers, with only 1 per cent being left unsold. A private collector paid £3,850 (estimate £4,000 to £4,500) for a good copy of 1896 Kelmscott Chaucer. The edition, which was limited to 438 copies, contains 87 woodcut illustrations after Burne-Jones as well as title, borders and initials after William Morris.

VISIT BY POPE 'NOT OPPOSED'

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Dr Philip Morgan, the secretary of the British Council of Churches, yesterday denied that there was significant opposition among British church members to the visit of Pope John Paul II.

He said he understood that the Free Church Federal Council had received no letters expressing opposition to the visit, nor had his own council. The Free Church council had had some protests about the establishment of full diplomatic relations with the Holy See, but those letters were numbered in tens rather than anything else.

He added: "There is no evidence of substantial opposition in any circles to the papal visit."

It was announced at the weekend that arrangements had been agreed for the Pope to meet during his visit to Edinburgh the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Professor John McIntyre, who is at present Moderator-elect. The Pope will call at the Church of Scotland Assembly Hall and be greeted by the Moderator at the steps.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net before tax paid):

Hampton, Mrs Betty Vasey, of Cliffe, Kent, £201,421.

James, Mr Thomas Rowland, of Chatteris, Cambridgeshire, £209,594.

Kilson, Mr John Williamson, of Eastbourne, £228,500.

Stokes, Mr Alfred, of Leicester Forest East, Leics., £212,159.

Yells, Mr John Lambert, of Cirencester, Gloucestershire, £281,850.

University news

Appointments: Fellowship of Fine Arts, 1982-83, £1,000.

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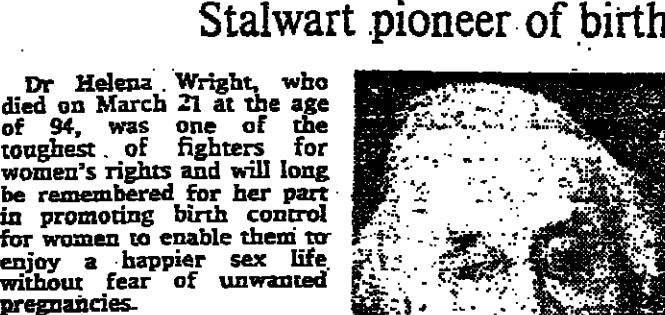
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OBITUARY

DR HELENA WRIGHT

Stalwart pioneer of birth control



Dr Helena Wright, who died on March 21 at the age of 94, was one of the toughest of fighters for women's rights and will long be remembered for her part in promoting birth control for women to enable them to enjoy a happier sex life without fear of unwanted pregnancies.

She was born Helena Rosa Lowenfeld in Brixton, London, on September 17, 1887. Her father, a penniless Polish immigrant, was nonetheless an entrepreneur with a genius for innovation and money making. Theatres were among his many interests and he built and ran the Apollo Theatre. By the time Helena was a toddler he was immensely rich. Surrounded by servants, dressed like a doll, educated at Cheltenham Ladies College where she was grateful for the influence and encouragement of Miss Beal, she finally rebelled completely against her upbringing and her father's wishes for her future and determined to become a doctor.

She trained at the Royal Free Hospital Medical School for Women (with time off at her father's insistence to do the London season). During her training she made up her mind to become a medical missionary, a choice far removed from her father's intentions for her. She was one of the first women to join the RAMC, and during the First World War worked at the Bethnal Green Hospital, where she met and married a fellow member of the staff, Mr H. W. S. Wright, MS, FRCS.

Having trained as a gynaecologist, she and her husband moved off to China in 1922 with two small sons where Helena Wright became Associate Professor of Gynaecology in the Shantung Christian University. After five years they returned to England, their family now increased to four sons.

The journey was made by the Trans-Siberian Railway, the youngest son, aged four months, sleeping in a hammock slung between the nursing of this infant-in-arms she "invented" disposable nappies.

On their way back they broke the journey at Berlin to visit some friends, and it was there that her interest in birth control was aroused when she met Dr Graefenberg, the inventor of the

information could never be the cause of failure for any woman to enjoy her sex life.

So sure was Helena that the cap was the answer to every woman's problem, that her initial reaction to the Pill when it came in the early 1960's was one of rejection. But when her patients asked her to try the Pill she soon realized that there were women who disliked the cap, and when women came to the FPA clinics who had previously avoided them, she recognized the limitations of the previous one-method clinic and threw herself wholeheartedly into offering her patients a choice.

Sadly, because of age, she retired from working at FPA clinics when she reached the age of 70. She continued, however, in her private practice and her international work. She was put in charge of the training of the many overseas doctors who came to this country to learn about family planning. This was merely a continuation of her overseas activities. After the Second World War she was a frequent visitor to undeveloped countries, lecturing and teaching, for which she had a flair. She was particularly well known and loved in India and Sri Lanka, and she paid her last visit to India alone in 1976 at the age of 88, to the mother of birth control in India.

She wrote yet another book, *Sex and Society*, published when she was 80 in 1968, as forward-looking and pioneering in outlook as her first book. In this she considered the new factor in peoples' lives that fertility can now indeed be voluntary with all the possibilities of a new social order that this offers.

Throughout her life Helena Wright eschewed always the paucity of wealth and concern over personal appearance and dress. Her appearance was as clinical as her approach to her field of endeavour. She was a determined woman with a forceful personality and a dislike of pomp and hypocrisy of any kind. She had a unique capacity to look at old problems anew in a completely non-sensational way. Her wonderful clarity as a teacher, and her courage and conviction, inspired her many pupils and wore down the resistance she met in every direction. She remained active and involved in her life's work to the end.

MR HARRY H. CORBETT

Harry H. Corbett, OBE, the actor best known for the television comedy series, *Step by Step*, died on March 21 after a heart attack at the age of 57.

His success in the role of Harold Steptoe, the rag and bone man, tended to overshadow his other work but he was an accomplished and versatile actor with long experience in the theatre. Before television brought him wider recognition. He suffered a previous heart attack in September 1979 but was soon back at work and he continued to be seen regularly on television until the last few months.

He was born in Rangoon, Burma, on February 28, 1925 the son of an army officer. His mother died when he was three and he was brought up by an aunt in Manchester. After serving in the Royal Marines during the Second World War, he trained as a vaudeville performer, turning to the stage as an understudy with the Chorlton repertory company. In 1951 he began a ten-year association with Theatre Workshop under Joan Littlewood at the Theatre Royal, Stratford East, where he played classical parts, in Shakespeare, Jonson and Ibsen, as well as contemporary drama. He also appeared at the Royal Court.

PRINCE EUGENIUSZ LUBOMIRSKI

Prince Eugeniusz Lubomirski, a descendant of an old Polish family founded in the 16th century by the lord of Wisnicz, died in London on March 16 at the age of 86. Educated privately and at the Vienna Commercial Academy he moved shortly before the First World War to the Belorussian estate of Dubrowna, inherited from his father Wladyslaw. In 1917 however the Lubomirski's estate was "nationalized" by the Russian Communist government.

When Poland became independent again the former landlord of Dubrowna was appointed attaché at Polish Legation in Washington. He resigned in 1922 and tried his luck as a broker in downtown New York. In the 1930s he returned to Poland where his childhood uncle Leon de Wop, his mother's brother, adopted him and assigned to him the estate of Chodorow in Eastern Galicia. Shortly later he married Miss Erika Wolf.

In September 1939 Lubomirski was arrested at Chodorow by the invading Soviet army and was sentenced by a revolutionary tribunal to eight-years' hard labour in

PROF ALEC RODGER

L.M.G. writes:

In addition to the many contributions to occupational psychology listed in your obituary, Alec Rodger brought his expertise to the training of Careers Officers. The Kent Education Authority established the first course of full-time training for the Careers Service at Lamorbey Park, Sidcup, and from 1949 until his retirement from Birkbeck College every group of students received his regular weekly lectures on occupational psychology, thus gaining sound theoretical knowledge on which to base more practical skills of their profession.

He also brought in other psychologists who gave valuable help, notably the late Peter Cavanagh. A useful link was forged between the Careers Service of Local Education Authorities, whose officers meet the day-to-day problems of young people leaving school and seeking further training or employment, and the university world of academic psychology.

The course was later transferred to the Kent College at Swanley. He set a standard for others to follow, and both the Careers Service nationally and the young people it exists to help owe him a debt of gratitude.

Lady Bonford, widow of Sir Hugh Bonford, CBE, died on March 6 at the age of 86. She was Margaret Evelyn (Peggy), daughter of R. W. Ord.

Jose Henrique the Brazilian light-weightweight boxer who challenged unsuccessfully for the world title four times between 1969 and 1975, died on March 11.

Moreover... Miles Kington

THE ARTS

Galleries

Brilliance arising from the clay

Michael Rysbrack

City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery

Eric Gill: "Matter and Spirit"

Gillian Jason Gallery

William Butterfield, 1814-1900

Fischer Fine Art

The sculptors of the past tend to get a raw deal where exhibitions are concerned. There are several reasons for this, mostly purely practical. In all likelihood, the works are going to be far flung and more or less permanently fixed. If they worked on any scale larger than the portrait bust, the problems of transportation and housing are formidable. And if they carved, rather than modelled, most of their works are going to be one-of-a-kind. If you have the space and resources of the National Gallery in Washington it is not so difficult to put together a comprehensive show of Rodin, because almost all his bronzes exist in a number of castings, and usually at least one of each will be in some American collection. But what do you do with a sculptor like Michael Rysbrack?

Mostly, and most famously, he carved. Many of his works are on a large scale — public and church monuments — especially — and cannot be moved, even if they are of quite modest dimensions. And, it must be added, he does not really fit in at the moment with any fashionable preoccupations. An emigre who achieved early in the eighteenth century the not-unremarkable status of England's leading sculptor, he was, almost by definition, a big fish in a small pond. If he remained a staunch defender of the antique in a century when elsewhere the baroque was shading into rococo extravagance, he was able to persist first of all because he was an artistic backwater. By an accident of fate, he found that he fitted in very well with William Kent's Palladian vanguard, but after his death in 1770 his reputation was forced into eclipse by the more correctly classifying followers of that same movement. The last of a breed of sober, scholarly enterprise which has no headlines and gets precious little

thanks from anyone. And it is difficult to do satisfactorily. And yet, when it is done, it can offer not only food for thought for the art historian but also a lot of enjoyment to the ordinary non-specialist visitor.

For Rysbrack is anything but difficult to approach. His odd mixture of the baroque and the classical, avoiding the two extremes, makes him curiously cosy, almost domestic. The grand manner he could do to perfection, and if one cares while in Bristol to walk over to Queen Square one can see in his superb bronze William III, which the gallery director describes in the catalogue, surprisingly but not altogether unjustifiably, as "Western Europe's finest eighteenth-century equestrian monument". But more characteristically he worked on a smaller scale, with his portrait busts and his terracotta figures and frequently rather modest church monuments, for an audience of middlebrow gentlemen who did not want to be challenged or bowled over.

With an artist of lesser talent, this situation can easily lead to complacency and dullness. But Rysbrack was very talented indeed. Though we tend to picture him now — if we picture him at all — as a carver in white marble, his reputation in his own time was based on his brilliance as a modeller in clay. And it is the terracottas which bring the main revelation of this show. If we examine in detail — as the layout of the show permits us to do — the modelling on the small full-length figures, like the *Model for a reclining figure in classical dress* or the standing *Sir Peter Paul Rubens* (this latter made to be reproduced, probably in plaster-cast), we can see how the extreme refinement of detailing and the sheer technical virtuosity are taken for granted, so that the first impression is one of total ease. The larger-scale terracottas, such as the bust of *Queen Elizabeth I* and the stunningly vivid and lifelike *Edward Colston* (recognised only five years ago, covered with paint, decorating the facade of some early-Victorian villas in Bristol), demonstrate his complete control in grading his effects to suit circumstances.

Other things become clear, too. Rysbrack was obviously a sculptor through and through. The drawings are quite muddy and undistinguished, while as soon as he is thinking, though on paper, in terms of dimensional realization they spring to life. And, though his famous penetration of character is clearly to be seen in the portrait busts, of which he was 70, his imagination is even more remarkable when it comes to creating historical character.

The *Queen Elizabeth I* is one of the most believable likenesses of her; while, far more remote, the *Alfred the Great* (one of his last works, though he was 70) manages a splendid combination of nobility and humanity. But look at



the two busts of Milton, as a young man and in old age: whatever their pictorial sources, the imaginative understanding of the physical and mental processes of ageing remains astonishingly immediate. The show, as well as revolutionizing our ideas on Rysbrack himself, should set off a whole train of reappraisals of other classic British sculptors. One only hopes its successors will be done half as well.

A sculptor who is in the news at present — it being the centenary of his birth — is Eric Gill. What a curious man he was! One would say that most of his life was

occupied in a struggle between the claims of the flesh and those of the spirit, except that he never seems to have seen it as a struggle, or regarded sex (always a major interest, both theoretically and practically) as anything but one of the Godhead's supreme manifestations here on earth, and all sexual activity (well, nearly all) as an act of worship. It is therefore particularly appropriate that the first London recognition of the man who dared to say with conviction who emerges better from the encounter.

The refinement and virtuosity of Rysbrack's Sir Peter Paul Rubens; Butterfield's design for a candlestick at St Mary-in-the-Castle, Dover; and wood-carving by Eric Gill

Gallery, a very pleasing new space at 42 Inverness Street, NW1, just a little up the road from Camden Market.

Though we have known for some time — and even more now, after Malcolm Yorke's recent biography — about Gill's endless fascination with male and female sexual organs, and every facet of sexual activity, this is the first exhibition I know of which has given this side of his art due prominence. There have been actual or implied, but a number of the drawings are connected with or preparatory to sculpture, and the wide variety of Gill's talents as a wood-engraver is well represented. In the second half we shall be getting a corresponding selection of work which is primarily religious in subject-matter.

But no hard-and-fast distinction is possible: some of the most explicit studies of copulation in this show represent, to Gill if to few else, the relationship of Christ and His Church. There are also some very jolly prints, such as *The domestic horse comes out well in time of drought*, which exemplify a Rabelaisian (or Chaucerian) sense of humour. And there are many more familiar illustrations which have little or nothing to do with sex, but make their effect with peerless skill and economy. All the same, the most striking lesson of this show lies in the fact that there is never anything sniggering, smutty or prurient about Gill's erotica: he seems by some miracle to have evaded English puritanism completely. At this moment, when it is rearing its ugly head again in the most unexpected quarters, that is a lesson well worth the learning.

William Butterfield, now, is virtually the most highly Victorian. Seriousness, religious fervour and a sheer cussed unwillingness to compromise are the hallmarks of his architecture, religious and secular, and of the fixtures and fittings he devised for his buildings. He is less lovable than Burgess, the last proponent of Victorian gothic to get star treatment, because less obviously, picturesquely peculiar.

But his seems to be a bigger, deeper, more revolutionary talent: if Burgess is a peripheral eccentric, Butterfield is the real thing. The show at Fischer Fine Art until April 16 — probably the first ever devoted to Butterfield — includes, as well as some lectures and evers and other imposing examples of Victorian design, a lot of the most resplendent architectural drawings you could ever wish to see, with every shade of Butterfield's characteristic polychromy specified to the last brick or tile. In the layouts for the flooring of Balliol Chapel or Bombay Cathedral, Butterfield seems to meet Tom Phillips on his own ground, and it would be a brave man who dared to say with conviction who emerges better from the encounter.

John Russell Taylor

Concerts

Goethe to the life

Songmakers' Almanac

Wigmore Hall

The literary almanac shows that Johann Wolfgang von Goethe died 150 years ago yesterday. It was an anniversary that Graham Johnson's Songmakers' Almanac could not possibly overlook. On Sunday they gave their most ambitious concert yet, a biographical portrait of Goethe that occupied both afternoon and evening sessions at Wigmore Hall.

It was a huge song recital, for the audience as well as for the five singers — who, as usual in the Almanac, contributed to the readings, sang their solos, duets and ensembles, provided extra chorus, and sang some acting to go with the words of Goethe himself were declaimed by Gabriel Woolf, strong on personality, and with a gentle, affectionate touch of mockery at the "Olympian pomposity" of the master's autobiographical writings. Goethe too had a sharp sense of humour.

His life was long and eventful. The Almanac's script followed him all the way, vividly featuring his irrepressibly amorous nature, deeply absorbed in love for womanhood from boyhood until his ardent eighties. It was the inspi-

ration for the lyric poetry on which so much of our *Lieder* repertory now depends.

The choice of music emphasized Schubert and Wolf, who most completely reflect Goethe's lyric genius and range. Besides Beethoven, there were elegant songs by Goethe's friend Zelter, some by Carl Loewe, Franz, and Busoni, even a modest ditty by one of the poet's sweethearts, Corona Schröter. Werthe had to be represented by Charlotte's French-adapted *Lieder* in Massenet's opera, and also an Italian cantata by Blangini (1810), who prescribed stage directions, loyally observed, for Werther's suicide.

Teamwork is the essence of Songmakers' Almanac's charismatic appeal. For once Graham Johnson's playing, intensely searching, wildly virtuosic, or tactfully accommodating to his singers, won chief laurels. Sheila Armstrong, a brave late substitute, was overpowered in Wolf's "Mignon", but found herself in a thrilling account of Schubert's "Erlkönig". Diana Montague, a fine mezzo-contraalto, excelled as the disapproving Charlotte von Stein. Anthony Rolfe Johnson in bel canto music, and Richard Jackson in character pieces, best championed the Almanac's vocal ideals.

William Mann

LPO/Leinsdorf

Festival Hall

The *Freischütz* Overture began circumspectly at Sunday night's London Philharmonic concert, but as it went on, Erich Leinsdorf, the conductor, got the orchestra to convey an impression of no little romantic commitment. The result was never quite too much, yet the brilliance of Weber's orchestration cast a shadow on that aspect of the Schumann piece which followed.

This was the Piano Concerto, in which Alfred Brendel gave a sophisticated account, full of subtle and unexpected nuances, of the first movement solo part. It was, so to speak, a commentary on the text done for the benefit of listeners who already knew it well rather than a straight presentation. In the second movement, the appearance of the main theme on the keyboard was most artfully varied.

Not quite so much could be expected from the orchestra, but there was expressive individuality in each player's playing, and much was made of the rhetorical flourishes. In the central *Intermezzo*,

both pianist and conductor suggested greater depth than most performances, and, if the finale received a reading that term could not be applied to the programme.

Next, indeed, came Verdi's *Te Deum*, for which the London Philharmonic Choir joined the orchestra. They sang excellently, their tone being warm and finely balanced, their diction very clear in quiet passages, especially considering that a large orchestra was also playing.

Luckily, the choir's presence meant that we could for once have a complete performance of Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloe* Suite No. 2, for the voices have much to add to the "Lever du Jour" and "Dance generale". This made the whole occasion worthwhile, for, although Mr Leinsdorf's interpretation was rather direct and straightforward, the sheer sensuous beauty of Ravel's music is such that it can benefit, up to a point, from a simple approach. And in the central "Pantomime" all sections of the woodwind excelled.

Max Harrison

Dance

Airs

Sadler's Wells

Paul Taylor's *Airs*, created for his own company in 1978 and now mounted for Ballet Rambert, is one of his lyrical dance suites, set (like his best known, *Autumn*) to a group of pieces by Handel, in this instance selected from the *Concerti Grossi*, Op. 3, and *Alcina*, *Adriante*, *Bertrando* and *Salomon*. The music is all most apt for dancing and makes for an enjoyable sequence, alternating serious and lighter moods.

The choreography adopts mostly a slightly formal manner, to accord with Handel's, but with this creator there is always a human warmth underlying the gravity, and a sense of humour jostling it at moments. For dancers unused to his idiom, probably the hardest thing about the ballet is that it looks so simple; if those seemingly carefree move-

ments are not done exactly, they will look lax.

It was a surprise on this occasion to find Robert North the chief offender in that respect, in spite of being the only member of the cast with previous experience of Taylor's ballet, in his London Contemporary days. His big physique ought to be at home in these dances, but perhaps it is too loose, or maybe Taylor's quick timing throws him.

Otherwise, the Rambert cast is perfectly presentable, with the spy Michael Ho and gracious Diane Walker already notable. What they do not yet manage is to impose their own convincing interpretation on the ballet. Nobody expects a repertory company to match the understanding which the choreographer's own regular team can give his work; but last year's production for American Ballet Theatre gave *Airs* a new look, coolly serene. It would be pleasant if Rambert could do likewise.

John Percival

Television

Expediency and the private patient

On the face of it, Shaw's remark that "there is nothing more insane in our society than allowing a doctor's income to depend on the illness of patients" is difficult to refute. But human beings tend to be suspicious when it comes to their health, so that private medicine, like many of Shaw's targets, has suffered unduly from its wit.

It is alive and increasingly well. One in 15 of the population now has private health cover, showing a growth that compensates for the fact that, as BBC2's *Horizon* reported last night, "the booming trade in sick Arabs is not what it was". They were examining *The Private Face of Medicine* and its links with the NHS, not hoping for a once-and-for-all answer to this continuing debate but trying to make a few things clear.

One thing they established was that not all who pay for treatment think it right that they should be able to buy it. Affluence and convenience combine to override ethical objections. Evidence on this score came from members of the ETC, who dismayed the TUC by opting for private care and have been duly examined by E28, a body set up by BUPA but the checks revealed that electricians were less healthy than managerial staff (a discovery that must confirm many subversive suspicions) so that subscriptions may have to rise for all.

They also pointed to the bad publicity the NHS had had over recent years, which has given rise to the belief that long delays are inevitable for everything whereas delays are only for non-urgent cases. This belief has helped the private medicine boom. *Horizon* instanced those areas where private medicine has no answer without unacceptable financial cost — caring for the aged and chronically disabled — and concluded that it is largely irrelevant to increasing social problems.

Hilary Henson wrote and produced the programme tightly and fairly, though it is unlikely to have budged people from their beliefs.

World in Action (Granada) was also on the medical trail with *Home Help*, an interesting programme on the pioneer work being done at Hyde,



Henze: prodigious output

Henze's commitment through music

This summer *Music and Politics*, the collected writings of Hans Werner Henze between 1953 and 1981, will be published by Faber. Among articles on specific works of his own, on Mahler, on German music in the 1940s and 1950s, many of

them seductively and provocatively written, is one on Benjamin Britten. Henze recalls the "deep impression" made on him by Peter Crone's "The drawing back of the horizon of the sea". He dedicated his 1958 *Kammermusik* to Britten and *El Cimarron* was premiered at Snape in 1970.

At the weekend Henze returned to Snape for the first of this year's three academic symposiums at the Britten-Pears School (Walton in June, Britten in October), taking part in an intensive two days of films, discussions and concerts organised and directed by Patrick Carnegie, assisted by Jan Latham-Koenig and Donald Mitchell.

It was both apt and illuminating that Donald Mitchell should choose to focus the discussion of "Music, Politics and Society" through a comparison of Britten and Henze with particular reference to Britten's *Our Hunting Fathers* and Henze's *Essay on Pigs*. An investigation of Britten's despairing awareness of pre-war fascism and Henze's reaction to the aftermath of the same political forces led to the crucial question of the "deceitfulness" of political message through music (Pigs, Henze says, is a document, not a pamphlet) and on to the broader, apolitical, or perhaps more deeply political, question of the composer as communicator.

This ran like a ground bass through the entire weekend. It was in order to free himself to speak more clearly, more directly, that Henze drew away from the serialist orthodoxy of the Darmstadt school, soaked himself in the melodic sun of Italy ("There the soul speaks out through the chest"). For this, too, he turned to the theatre to which and from which Henze believes all music moves and whose stronger sense of reality was demonstrated in recorded and filmed extracts from his too rarely performed operas. Meanwhile, the all-pervasive presence of the past in Henze's music wound its way in and out of discussion and musical examples.

Should students, then, be made to rewrite pieces from the past? Not necessarily. Perhaps going back could only come later in life, Henze replied. It was, after all, in

1977, at the age of 51, that Henze composed his fantasy tributes to Corelli and Vivaldi in *Aria de la Jota española* and *Il Violino Raddoppiato*, both given warm-hearted and lively performances by the young Snape Makers Training Orchestra with Peter Manning (violin), conducted by the composer on Sunday afternoon. Folded between two symphonies by Mozart ("A phenomenon that accompanies and vexes my whole existence"), the theatricality of the first, the sensuous yet precise parts for all its actors, the heady ease with which Henze the craftsman flashes his gifts in the second — both bore as the eloquent witness to the composer as communicator.

Not that in Henze the political commitment which has coloured his life and work from the late 1960s has led to that kind of ideological affirmation that stifles or denies the vital and imperative questioning of art. His fifth string quartet, dedicated to the memory of Britten and performed courageously and sensitively on Saturday by the young Locrian Quartet, was in contrast incomprehen-

sible to some and disturbing to other course members. In the disquieting dissonance which tugs at its gentle lyricism, in its moments of defiance, and numbness, in the long, harmonic journey towards a dislocated ending, it seems to articulate a part of that entire process of re-examination of the means and ends of expression, of the relationship between composer and public to which Henze constantly returned in discussion.

That this subject, with all its political and musical implications, could not be torn apart more vigorously, debated more energetically, was due as much to the diffidence and inexperience of the young course members as to the sometimes under-probing, over-reverent attitudes of its leaders. But thoughts were undeniably provoked, ears opened, and before Henze comes to the Barbican in July, something of a balanced redress in the opportunities to consider and assess the work of a composer of whose prodigious and important output we have heard far too little in Britain in the last decade.

Hilary Finch

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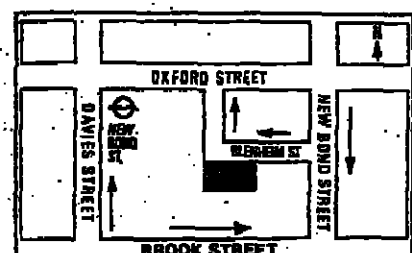
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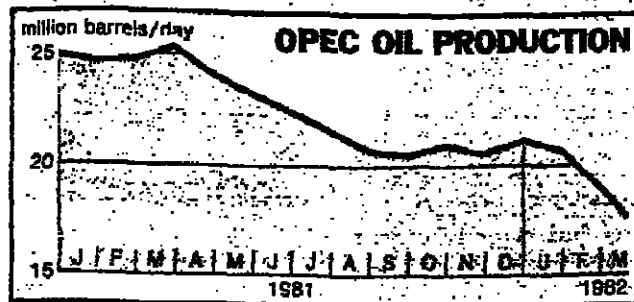
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BUSINESS NEWS



The decision by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to place a production ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day underlines how sharply the oil glut has eaten into demand for their oil. At the start of last year, Opec output was running at 25 million barrels a day, which means that during the past 15 months it has fallen by a third. As recently as 1973, the output was at an all-time peak of just under 32 million barrels a day.

Thorn buys computer firms

Thorn EMI is to buy two computer service businesses from BOC, the industrial gas manufacturer. No price has been disclosed but it is expected to be between £5m and £9m for the two businesses. Software Sciences and BOC Datastore. Based at Farnborough and Sunbury, they have a turnover of about £30m, employ 920 people, and represent the major part of the BOC International computer services division. Detailed negotiations are continuing.

Tokyo gold market opens

Tokyo's gold futures market, the first new commodity to be introduced in Japan for 30 years, opens today. The exchange will initially concentrate on domestic business, and will expand into international trading later. Price movements will be limited to 10 per cent above or below the previous day's closing price, a margin of 20 per cent will be required and the exchange hopes for a turnover of 240 tonnes in the first year.

Invergordon's fate in balance

Ministers are meeting today to consider the fate of the Invergordon plant which British Aluminium decided to close at the end of last year. Discussions are understood to centre on the terms under which the plant would be supplied with power, possibly from hydroelectricity. Several companies have shown interest in buying the plant, and British Aluminium says that, if the power price is right, it is prepared to reinvest.

£300m steel deal

The state-owned Voest-Alpine engineering group of Austria has signed a £295.5m contract with the Soviet Union for a plant capable of producing 250,000 tonnes of steel annually from scrap metal. Finance of the mill, to be sited in Byelorussia and in operation by the end of 1984, is being provided by Austrian banks. India will shortly invite tenders for building a new port near Bombay, at an estimated cost of \$644m (£350m).

Matthews resigns from ACC board

Lord Matthews, a non-executive director of Associated Communications Corporation, resigned last night from the board after an abortive attempt by ACC's non-executive directors to remove Mr Robert Holmes as chairman.



Lord Matthews

At yesterday's board meeting, Mr Holmes' a'Court survived a vote of confidence by seven votes to four. Mr Holmes' a'Court, who is also chairman of TVW which is bidding 110p a share for ACC, told the board that he did not consider he had a conflict of interests that required him to step down.

He said there was no legal requirement to do so under the takeover code, and he believed the recently constituted ACC bids committee was an appropriate mechanism to consider takeover offers received by the company.

Lord Matthews was chairman of the bids committee and is chief executive of Trafalgar House the property conglomerate. Mr Holmes' a'Court had also given an undertaking to the Takeover Panel not to take part in any board discussions of the takeover offers.

The other members were Sir Leo Pilatkey, Mr Ellis Sir Leo and Mr Tony Lucas, all non-executive directors except for Mr Lucas. Last night Sir Leo resigned from this committee.

Sir Leo said: "I took the view that in the present circumstances it would be preferable if Mr Holmes' a'Court stood down from his position as chairman while remaining chief executive for a limited period during the bid situation. I also made it clear that normally I do not disassociate myself from collective decisions even if I disagree with them; on this occasion I would feel free to make this position public."

'Blackmail' row on Channel 4

By Torin Douglas

Advertisers are furious with independent television over sales arrangements for advertising on Channel Four.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority has allowed ITV companies to link Channel 4 with existing the ITV channel for the calculation of regional discounts. Advertisers claim that this will lead to a "blackmail" situation, with the television contractors, forcing them to buy time on Channel Four if they want peak breaks on ITV.

"It shows that the IBA doesn't understand how the system works," said Mr David Wheeler, director of the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. "We are very unhappy about the IBA's decision to force us to go into blackmail doesn't mean that it's a good thing."

The director of the Incorporated Society of British Advertisers, Mr Kenneth Miles, agreed. "We are very unhappy about the IBA's decision to force us to go into blackmail doesn't mean that it's a good thing."

The two organizations were notified yesterday by Lord Thomson of Mafeking, chairman of the IBA, who said that the linking of channels for parity discount schemes would be permitted provided it did not result in conditional selling.

The IBA would monitor arrangements and any complaints could go to the IBA's Advertising Liaison Committee, on which advertisers, agencies, the ITV companies and the IBA are represented.

Meanwhile, the institute is to collect evidence of possible abuse and will present it to the liaison committee. The institute is chaired by Lord Thomson. "I have had many complaints from agencies," said Mr Wheeler.

10 pc rise in German exports

From Our Correspondent, Brussels, March 22

West German exports jumped by 10 per cent last month helping to lift the country's visible trade surplus to DM3,624m (about £440m) in February from DM1,100m in January.

The West German federal bank estimated that the country's current account balance of payments deficit fell to DM600m last month from DM3,400m in January. The improvement had been expected by foreign exchange markets and contributed to the strength of the Deutsche mark against the French and Belgian francs.

Over the first two months of this year, West German exports rose by 15 per cent compared with the same period of 1981 to DM65,900m while imports increased by only 6 per cent to DM 61,100m according to official figures issued today.

Continued speculation on an imminent realignment of currencies within the EMS hit the French franc from the start of trading yesterday. The franc spent the day trading at a premium of 50 pfennigs against the strongest currency, the Dutch guilder. The Belgian franc also fell close to its EMS floor.

The Luxembourg Government has submitted to Belgium a list of changes it seeks to the Belgo-Luxembourg monetary union after last month's 8.5 per cent devaluation of the Belgian and Luxembourg francs within the EMS. A ministerial-level meeting between the two countries Thursday will discuss the move.

British consulting engineers had £46.5m worth of overseas work in hand last year, an increase of 21 per cent over 1980.

Irish industry board chief

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

A leading Belfast accountant is to spearhead what the Government hopes will be a revitalizing industrial development drive for Northern Ireland.

Sir Desmond Lorimer, aged 57, is to chair the forthcoming Industrial Development Board for Northern Ireland, which this summer will take over the work of the Northern Ireland Development Agency with the present industrial development work of the provincial Department of Commerce.

Sir Desmond Lorimer, a Belfast conglomerate of 10 companies operating in property, life assurance, textiles, engineering and a senior partner in chartered accountants Harwood Banner Smylie.

The attempt by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to stop the fall in prices by cutting back production was greeted with distinct scepticism on the oil and stock markets yesterday.

On the spot market, where individual cargoes of crude oil and oil products are traded, prices were little changed from what they were before Opec's weekend agreement to put a new ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day on output. Crude oil and products have been selling at discounts of about \$5 to \$6 a barrel below the official Opec reference price of \$24.

There were no major cargoes of crude bought or sold, product prices were

Company profits start to recover

By David Blade, Economics Editor

Company profits went up by a quarter between the first and second halves of last year, according to figures published yesterday by the Central Statistical Office (CSO).

Income from employment went up by only 5 1/2 per cent during the period, a result of low pay rises and a continuing loss of jobs.

The profits estimates are net of stock appreciation, but give an exaggerated picture of the performance of most companies because they include the impact of North Sea oil.

Profits from this sector have been rising but there seems no reason to doubt that profits outside the North Sea sector have also been

GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

At constant factor cost (1975=100)				
	Expenditure	Income	Output	Average estimate
1979 Q1	106.7	108.8	108.4	108.0
Q2	110.6	113.2	112.2	112.0
Q3	109.1	111.4	110.0	110.2
Q4	109.3	112.0	110.7	110.7
1980 Q1	108.8	111.8	108.9	110.2
Q2	108.5	109.7	108.2	108.1
Q3	106.0	107.3	106.4	106.6
Q4	105.3	106.8	104.9	105.6
1981 Q1	105.4	105.2	104.3	104.9
Q2*	—	105.5	104.0	—
Q3*	—	106.0	104.4	—
Q4*	106.1	106.8	104.8	105.9

*As a result of the industrial action by civil servants, no estimate of the expenditure-based measure is available. The estimate for the income data is less reliable than usual.

Rising after touching very low levels in 1980. The figures were published along with data on income expenditure and output used by the CSO to assess gross The estimate of the output measure of gdp in the fourth

quarter is unchanged from its earlier figure of 104.8, a 0.4 per cent rise from the figure of 104.4 now estimated for the third quarter.

The income estimate for gdp is thought to have risen strongly in the final quarter to 106.8 from a third quarter figure of 106. However, the estimate for the third quarter is particularly uncertain.

The average estimate for gdp as a whole was 105.9 in the final quarter, up 0.3 per cent on the whole level of the final quarter of 1980 but still well below the average level for that year.

The Government expects the economy to grow by about 1 1/2 per cent

1,200 jobs lost at British Aerospace

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

British Aerospace has become the latest casualty of the Government's defence cuts. The company yesterday announced the closure of three of its sites with the loss of about 1,200 jobs over the next 12 months.

The cutbacks are the first by the nationalization in 1977 and subsequent "privatization" a year ago when the sale of 50 per cent of the company's equity realized £150m for the Government.

Its site at Holme-on-Spalding Moor, on the North Humberside, where 400 workers are involved in aircraft development, will be run down over the next six to 12 months. About 75 per cent of the workforce are expected to be offered alternative employment.

In Lincolnshire, a small stores, depot at Bracebridge Heath which employs about 200 people is to be run down over a similar period.

The axe is expected to fall heaviest at the company's site at Bittleswell, Leicestershire which has a workforce of about 1,000 and which has been involved mainly in repair and maintenance work for the Royal Air Force.

The accelerated withdrawal of the Vulcan bomber and the larger volume of repair and maintenance work done by the RAF were blamed for the decision to wind down.

Apprentices and other trainees at Bittleswell will be offered continued training elsewhere and some workers would be offered alternative work, but several hundred redundancies are expected.

Traditionally a substantial part of the workload at the three sites has derived from miscellaneous work for the Ministry of Defence the company said in a statement.

In the light of the current reductions of MOD expenditure in this field, British Aerospace has concluded that these sites cannot remain viable.

EEC makes formal trade protest over Japan

From Peter Norman, Brussels, March 22

European Community trade ministers today decided to step up diplomatic pressure on Japan to open its markets more to European goods by lodging a formal trade complaint under the terms of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Proceedings come under Article 23 which provides for consultations between the two sides on the whole range of their trade problems. If the formal bilateral talks fail, the issues will be referred to special arbitration.

The idea is to use GATT machinery to make the Japanese more receptive to arguments that have been repeated many times in exchanges between Brussels and Tokyo. The move has been likened to dispatch of a solicitor's letter in a dispute between neighbours.

The root cause of economic friction is Japan's tendency for low imports. The EEC hope is that the Japanese will now be so impressed by being put in the dock in GATT that they will take quick action to meet the European grievances for fear of finding themselves under further attack at the world economic summit at Versailles in June.

The EEC statement called for "tangible assurances" that Japan would moderate exports to the EEC of sensitive products such as cars, colour television sets and numerically-controlled machine tools.

But Mr John Biffen, Trade Secretary, warned it would be foolish "to be tripped happy" and try to keep the Japanese out of European markets. Such action, could result in increased competition from Japanese manufacturers on Third World markets.

He also cautioned against lecturing the Japanese to change their macro-economic policies in the interests of achieving a better balance in their trade.

Sir Freddie sets up air consultancy business

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Sir Freddie Laker, whose airline company collapsed last month owing millions to banks and other creditors, was back in business yesterday behind the desk on the aviation consultancy business he has set up with Mr Roland "Toby" Rowland, the Lomro chief executive.

The new company, Sir Freddie Laker Ltd, which is based at Lomro's City offices in Cheapside has a paid-up capital of £10,000 of which Sir Freddie has put up half. Sir Freddie has for the moment abandoned plans to start a "People's Airline" and withdraws his licence applications to the Civil Aviation Authority because

he saw no chance of getting under way in time for the summer business. However, Sir Freddie is still looking at plans for a new airline starting next year. Meanwhile he would harness his expertise in the consultancy business. He said he already had two customers and planned to develop it into a multi-million pound business within five years.

Sir Freddie said he would be having a meeting with Lloyds Bank to decide what to do with the donations sent to him by the public. Over £70,000 has been received. He said he would be going back to the people who sent it, he said.

Early decision urged for cable

By Bill Johnstone, Electronics Correspondent

A cable television system for Britain which would start in 1986, and which would harness technology developed in the United Kingdom instead of that being used in the United States has been recommended for government approval.

The Cabinet Information Advisory Panel report on cable television, published yesterday, favours a British cable television system with at least 30 channels. "The technology has not been applied in the United Kingdom because current cable systems have no use for the technology which is being developed in Japan and France," the report says.

The authors of the report urge the Government to decide soon to allow the cable system to be operated in most cities in the United Kingdom to coincide with direct satellite television broadcasting due to start in 1986.

If the British technology was adopted groups of 50 to 100 subscribers would be connected to a local switching point in a small box at the end of the street. The authors suggest that the system which would require an investment of £1,000m each year for the next 10 years to install the system nationally would generate substantial benefits for the British industry. The cable cost alone for wiring an expected 50 per cent of United Kingdom homes is estimated to be in the region of £2,000m-£3,000m.

The report emphasizes that the prospects are bleak for those commercial cable systems at present in operation in the United Kingdom. At the moment about 14 per cent of homes are wired for television mainly to improve

BROKER BOUGHT

Mercantile House, the expanding money broking group, has paid £6.5m for Charles Fulton, an ailing money broker. Gill & Duffus, which had held a sizable stake in Fulton, will make about £2.8m from the sale.

Last year Fulton made pretax profits of £834,000, but at the moment it is only breaking even.

The firm's heaviest losses have been in the New York money broking and London foreign exchange operations. Mr John Barkshire, Mercantile House Chairman, said that the New York money broking side probably would be closed and the London foreign exchange interests integrated into the group's existing business.

US car men agree pay freeze

From Christopher Thomas, New York, March 22

General Motors has reached a tentative deal with the United Auto Workers Union that could save the company up to \$3,000m (£1,600m) in the 30-month life of the agreement.

The agreement, 37 hours of negotiations in Detroit, will save thousands of jobs and may bring in lower car prices in the United States.

The agreement will give up annual pay rises, lose up to nine days holiday a year, and defer cost of living increases for nine months. A jubilant GM's industrial relations vice president, was "very, very pleased."

The agreement, similar to that reached by UAW and Ford last month, will now go to the union's general council and then to a ballot of the 400,000 current and laid-off GM hourly workers. Union leaders are confident.

Pearson Longman takes off

the rate of inflation was no longer increasing. Long dated issues showed gains of up to 2 1/2, with medium 2 1/4 better and shorts 2 1/4 up at the official close and gaining a further 2 1/4 after hours.

FT Index 558.1 down 4.6
FT Gilt 69.06 up 0.61
FT all share 322.20 down 0.96
Bargains 21,010

Pearson Longman shares soared from 248p to 272p yesterday amid rumours that a renewed takeover attempt from S. Pearson was imminent. But with shares slipping 1p to 248p, S. Pearson would need to bid considerably more than the one share and 30p it successfully offered in 1978 to pick up the 26.4 per cent of Pearson Longman which it does not already own.

Mr Michael Hare, deputy chairman of S. Pearson and chairman of Pearson Longman, said "I cannot comment on market rumours."

An intriguing three cornered takeover contest in the property sector moved one step nearer being resolved with the publication by Federal Land of its offer document for Estates & General.

M. P. Kent, the Bristol-based property group, hopes to use its 15 per cent stake in Federal to block the deal and takeover Federated itself.

"We feel that the proposals advanced (by Kent) do not benefit shareholders as we have gone ahead with the offer document," said Mr Peter Meyer, Federated Land chairman.

Federated shares were 1p better at 154p while Estates & General eased 1p to 68p. M.P. Kent were unchanged at 52p.

Leading equities made a dull start to the second leg of the account, with Turner & Newall again one of the leading fallers in profits, say the brokers. The next few weeks will see faster changes in the world's insurance industries than at any previous time.

Among its individual assessments, Sherrards and Chase pick C E Heath for its international spread and a valuable United States connection.

COMMODITIES

There was aggressive selling of near cocoa in London and New York, which forced March cocoa down by £33 a tonne to £1,038. But May cocoa was stronger and rose £2 to £1,041, reversing the loss of £10 made on Friday. Settlement was not much improved by the International Cocoa Organization's decision last week to borrow \$75m from a group of Brazilian banks. It should be remembered, however, that the March position is close to expiry.

Coffee, the March position of which plunged £85 last week, gained £2 for the near contract to £1,380 a tonne. May coffee, however, weakened by £7 to £1,227. The International Coffee Organization started two weeks of talks yesterday which are expected to deal with indicator prices for different coffees, an updated quota distribution, and reserve stocks.

TODAY

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, and Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Information Technology, address the Institute of Directors' annual convention, Royal Albert Hall, London, 10am-8pm. Unemployment figures and unfilled vacancies (March provisional). Board meetings: Interim: British Car Auction, Fairview Estates, Paterson Zachors, Ricardo Consulting Engineers. Final: Brent Chemicals International, Equity and Law Life Assurance, Fairclough Construction, Fife Indmar, Findlay Packaging.

OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Market closed Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,223.19 up 15.98

CURRENCIES

The French franc again bumped along its EMS floor, while the Belgian franc also came under pressure. All EMS currencies were dragged down against the dollar and sterling.

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling \$1,800.50 up 10 points
Index 91.3 up 0.2
DM 4.3050
Fr F 11.2550
Yen 440.50
Dollar Index 115.0 up 0.3
DM 2.3880 up 50 pts
Gold \$321 up \$5.75

MONEY MARKETS

The undertone was slightly firmer. The bank bought £250m of bills, having forecast a shortage of £50m.

Domestic Rates:
Base rates 13%
3-month Interbank 13 1/4-13%
Euro Currency Rates:
3 month dollar 14 1/4-15%
3 month DM 9 1/4-9 1/2%
3 month Fr 23 1/4-23%

BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

'Takeover' proves us right

Forsaking our customary modesty, I can disclose that Nicholas Fleming's latest novel *Takeover*, due out next Monday, takes a speculative story in *The Times Business News* as its starting-point. Fortunately for our reputation, the story turns out to be true.

The distinguished City merchant bank is heading for disaster. To make matters worse, its major American investment is on the verge of bankruptcy. The shares plummet, leading to a run on deposits and finally the threat of a takeover bid for the bank itself.



Fleming — a solid yarn.

I will not spoil the solid rather than gripping yarn by revealing how the day is saved and who saves it. Suffice to say that the pin-striped hero is not in the same league as James Bond, which may be an advantage. Fleming, 43, who lives and farms near Henley, Oxon., is keen to break the mould of his previous three books, which "followed in uncle's footsteps".

Uncle was, of course, the late Ian Fleming, the writer. Nicholas Fleming's cousin, Robert Fleming and Co., and assisted him with research. None of the events in *Takeover* is based on that bank's activities, he says. Naturally.

Well-heeled veteran

Like most ex-soldiers, Philip Birch remembers his army boots with affection and hatred. These days, his relationship with them is more straightforward. He has just marched. Ward White, the international footwear group of which he is chairman and managing director, into a £2m contract with the Ministry of Defence.

● Social democracy appears to be making its mark in the blue-blooded ranks of the City's top merchant banks Morgan Grenfell. Last year Mr Roy Jenkins, who this week visits at the Hillhead by-election, joined the board of Morgan Grenfell Holdings. His experience has proved of great value to the chairman Lord Catto in his annual report. So will Morgan Grenfell, which contributed £12,500 to the Tory party in 1980 and a further sum in 1981, help fund the new centre party? "We are thinking of making contributions to the SDP," says Mr Bill Mackworth-Young, vice chairman of Morgan Grenfell Holdings.

Spending money like water

John Elfed Jones has got himself a good deal as the new chairman of the Welsh Water Authority.

He will be paid £20,540 for this three-day-a-week job which he takes over on June 1, the salary for which has trebled in less than four years.

In 1978 the salary for Elfed Jones's predecessor, T. M. Hayden Rees had been £6,403 but according to Authority accounts it then jumped to £10,709 and then in 1979 to £14,550 by last year it was £19,162.

Although the chairman's salary had more than trebled, the Authority's other employment costs have gone up by only three-quarters from £25 million to £44 million — in a period when the Authority has made losses totalling £15 million and is considering increasing water charges by a fifth.

Nicholas Cole

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr J. G. Quinton (director and senior general manager of Barclays Bank) has been elected chairman of the chief executive officers' Committee of the Committee of London Clearing Bankers, with effect from April 1. Mr Quinton succeeds Mr S. T. Graham (director and group chief executive of Midland Bank).

Mr G. M. Gill will be appointed head of the foreign exchange division of the Bank of England to succeed Mr J. L. Sangster on his retirement in November. Mr Gill is at present chief manager responsible for banking and credit markets.

Mr Peter Bray and Mr John Milham have been appointed to the board of Istock Building Products.

Women and blacks in the USA fear job cutbacks. Bailey Morris reports

Last in, first out: bad for minorities

Washington. The past turbulent year in the United States has confirmed one of the worst fears of women and minorities — that they will be the first to be laid off in periods of economic recession.

Despite a decade of what are known as Affirmative Action Programs (job quotas for minorities) and unprecedented employment gains, new figures show that the career and salary prospects of women and minorities are beginning to slip backwards, ebbing with the strong economic tide which has flattened employment in America generally.

This is the dismal conclusion of leaders of more than a dozen women's organizations who converged on Washington last week to launch a national campaign to fight for jobs and "economic justice" for women.

The unravelling of a decade of widely heralded action programmes — in which the number of American working women grew to well over 40 million, or more than 50 per cent of all women in the United States — has been caused by employers reverting to the traditional seniority system.



Upholding women's rights in Washington, USA

In other words, the last workers to be hired are now the first to be fired. The result is redundancy for a disproportionate number of women and blacks who fought their way up to lower management and middle management positions during the 1970s.

This pattern is particularly evident in federal and state bureaucracies, which traditionally have been one of the most important job sources for women and minorities.

A new congressional study shows, for example, that women managers in federal agencies are being laid off at a rate more than double that of minority groups generally, and at half the rate of all administrators.

The US Bureau of National Affairs, an organization which charts national trends and gathers regional statistics, recently published a series of pamphlets exposing the imbalance in layoffs as a problem in cities as diverse as Boston, Los Angeles, Detroit and even Kalamazoo.

So serious is the problem at a time when unemployment among young black people is approaching 40 per cent and the number of US households headed by women has swelled more than 75 per cent since 1960 to close to 20 per cent of the total, that it

has created a rift in the traditional alliance between minority groups and organized labour.

The last in/first out rule in America is now under attack, prompting a spate of lawsuits across the country as women and minorities fight back against the entrenched seniority system in organized labour.

"Until the recession civil rights groups and organized labour were working very closely together. Now, when you have to deal with the question of what to do when the jobs have to be reduced there is less accord," says Mr Thomas Atkins, General Counsel of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People.

There administration has pretty well abandoned the new constituencies such as



Chicago workers: blacks may be one of the first groups to suffer in the recession

women and blacks," says Senator Robert Packwood, chairman of the Republican Policy Committee.

"We're in a crisis. Women are so terrified of losing their jobs they won't speak up about such things as equal salaries or advancement," says Ms Sandra Fortner, executive director of the National Commission of Working Women.

She says that history proves that the gains made by American women over the past decade are fragile and must be fought for in order to avoid the inevitable backsliding which has followed every period of gain made by women.

"During every period of war as far back as the Civil war, women have surged into the workforce only to be expelled from it as soon as the men returned from fighting to take up their jobs again," she says.

Women's groups are particularly fearful that the new breed of female executives will increasingly be blocked from advancement in Corporate America which they have only begun to penetrate in the last decade.

Although it is still too soon to give a detailed breakdown of the effects of recession on women in management it is nonetheless true that the greatest number of female executives are concentrated in the softer public relations and service positions. These generally are the first to go, say a spokesman for Catalyst Inc., a New York management consultancy which specializes in placing women in management positions.

It is also true that women no longer enjoy the unique support and encouragement they formerly enjoyed among top American male managers during the peak of the "affirmative years" of the 1970s.

Then, not a month went by, without the announce-

ment of some new "first" achieved by a woman, whether it be the first woman governor of the American Stock Exchange or the first woman corporate secretary of a Fortune 500 firm, or the first woman to negotiate the corporate salary of \$100,000 a year plus benefits.

But these female role models, no matter how impressive, still accounted for only a tiny proportion of all working women in the United States.

The vast majority of them were concentrated in lower paying clerical, service and factory jobs.

At last count, 80 per cent of all American working women remained in these positions and only 20 per cent were counted as professionals, and this classification included nurses, teachers, and others in the traditional female jobs.

Only one per cent of the 44 million working women in America have made it into non-traditional, highly paid corporate management positions and it now appears, with recession, that their number is dwindling.

"Minorities have always had a problem and therefore few expectations. The tragedy in America now is that the women, particularly women who head households, have begun to have expectations which may not be fulfilled, resulting inevitably in some horrible form of

social confrontation," says Ms Fortner.

The first signs of conflict have already begun to emerge as women in the workforce become increasingly hostile towards each other, resulting in a new, divisive relationship between the non-professional support staff and female managers.

"There is a new tension between management and non management women which could become very serious if not nipped in the bud," says Ms Fortner, executive director of Wider Opportunities for Women, a national organization which trains women for non-traditional work.

The source of this growing hostility can be traced largely to the lower-paid women who see their opportunities for advancement drying up as the economy declines.

Increasingly, these women are turning against the favouritism of the few female managers and professionals who have achieved salaries and positions denied the rest.

"The sentiment that it is better to have a man as a boss than a woman boss is being heard with growing frequency in our organization," said Ms Fortner.

"As the recession begins to affect their husbands, fathers or sweethearts, these women are less and less willing to see other women receive the choice jobs."

up and coming directors are quite in the same league of Parker and Hudson.

However, other creative directors believe that the departure of some of the top men has opened up the way for exciting new talent.

"I don't think that their going has harmed the business," says Len Weinreich, creative director of Wasey Campbell Ewald and president of the Advertising Creative Circle.

"The trouble is that when directors become fashionable in advertising, everyone writes commercials for them to direct and everything looks exactly the same. I don't believe you should write a commercial with a particular director in mind — you should write it, and then look around for the best director for that commercial."

Mr Weinreich welcomes the success that the commercials directors have had in feature films.

Already other successful advertising directors, such as Adrian Lyne, who made the recent award-winning *Coin* commercial, and Peter Webb, who directed the John Smith's Yorkshire Bitter series, are making feature films as younger directors are finding opportunities in advertising as a result of the gaps they have left.

The discipline required to tell a story and build an atmosphere within a 30-second commercial is invaluable training for a director, though the transition from 30 seconds to 90 minutes can be daunting. "It's difficult to go straight from one to another," Peter Webb told the magazine *Creative Review*, which recently ran a series on the commercials directors.

"It's like being a world champion sprinter and then they suddenly put you into the mile. You're struggling a bit," said Mr Webb.

Hugh Hudson disagreed: "To me it was like being let out of prison, frankly. I felt I was in clover and really enjoyed doing it."

On the other hand, there is a strong argument for saying that the quality of the commercials on Channel Four, the upmarket channel, should be higher than those on the existing ITV channel.

If advertisers are to be lured away from the affluent environment of the colour magazines, they will want to produce commercials with a similar quality feel to the double-page spreads they produce for the Sunday supplements.

For such advertisers, the directors who have been wooed away to make feature films will be a sad loss. Many agency creative directors agree with Mr Webster's assessment that none of the

THE UNEMPLOYED IN AMERICA

	1972	1980	Feb 1981	Feb 1982
BLACK MEN				
TOTAL EMPLOYED	4.3m	4.7m	5.1m	5.2m
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	11.1%	15.6%	13.4%	17.7%
WHITE MEN				
TOTAL EMPLOYED	45.8m	50.3m	50.1m	50.6m
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	N.A.	6.3%	6.5%	8%
BLACK WOMEN				
TOTAL EMPLOYED	3.4m	4.4m	4.9m	5m
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	12.1%	14.5%	12.9%	14.3%
WHITE WOMEN				
TOTAL EMPLOYED	27.3m	36m	36.1m	36.9m
UNEMPLOYMENT RATE	N.A.	7.1%	5.9%	7%

Source: US Bureau of Labor Statistics

The big screen craftsmen with a 30-second start

MARKETING AND ADVERTISING: BEHIND THE CAMERA

By Torin Douglas

Chariots of Fire, which last week won the British Academy Award for the best film of 1981, has catapulted its director, Hugh Hudson, into the top league of international film directors.

Yet chances are that the film will not get as large as a commercial as some of Hudson's previous films, which have regularly been screened on television over the past few years.

They include the black-and-white "Cobra" commercial for Courage, Best Bitter for the "Ski Lodge" commercial for Cizanzo, starring Joan Collins and Leonard Rossiter, and a comparative epic in a world where the norm is 30 seconds, the commercial for the Fiat Strada, in which robots assemble the car to the accompaniment of Rossini's *Barber of Seville*.

Hudson is the latest in a growing line of directors who have found big screen fame after years spent learning their craft in the demanding — and lucrative — world of television commercials.

His illustrious predecessors include Alan Parker, whose most memorable commercials include the one in which a man selects a hat purely by the size of his brain to protect his cigar from the rain, and Ridley Scott, best known for the nostalgic, beautifully filmed commercials for Movis.

Parker found fame with films such as *Bugsy Malone* and *Midnight Express*. Scott, with *The Duellist* and *Alien*, and the net result is that they and Hudson are now lost to advertisers, so busy are they with their feature film schedules.

"They've definitely left a hole," says John Webster, executive creative director of one of London's top television advertising agencies, Boase Massimi Pollitt. "We were spoiled by them — they were immensely talented. There is still a raft of pretty good directors, but I don't think there's anyone to compete with them."

It was Mr Webster who hired Mr Hudson to make the "Gercha" commercial, which recreates a 1920s pub atmosphere through a combination of black-and-white filming, impeccable casting and a piano song. Underpinning the film is an element of humour that typifies the soft sell approach favoured by the more sophisticated advertisers in Britain.

The "Gercha" commercial exemplifies Hudson's approach to film-making, according to Mr Webster. "He has class and he's very intelligent. He surrounds himself with the right people for the job."

"For the 'Gercha' commercial, which was to be shot in black and white, he decided to use Bob Krasker, who worked on *The Third Man*, as his lighting cameraman. He had to pull him from retirement — he was more than 70-years old but Hugh knew he was the man for the job."



ABOVE: Ticking the ivories in the *Courage Best Bitter* television commercial. BELOW: Hugh Hudson, the man who made the film and went on to direct *Chariots of Fire*.

Such considerations will become even more crucial in November when Channel Four comes on the air. Not only will the number of transmissions increase if a commercial is shown on both channels, thereby incurring extra repeat fees, but for advertisers attracted to Channel Four by the comparatively low cost of airtime, the cost of making a reasonable commercial may be prohibitive.

well over 100 commercials a year, their earning potential is considerable.

These sums, of course, are considerably less than the cost of buying the airtime to transmit the commercial, which often runs to over £50,000 per 30-second showing. Nevertheless, there are signs that advertisers are less willing to pay such production costs for commercials, particularly since Equity renegotiated the repeat fee arrangement for its members' appearances in commercials, considerably increasing the cost of using actors.

Business Editor

Can Opec hold the line?

Contrary to the hopes of some and the fears of others, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) is not yet defunct. Given the oil producers' internal differences and some of their immediate financial difficulties, the most remarkable feature of their emergency meeting in Vienna last weekend is that they reached any agreement.

From their point of view, their decision to place a new ceiling of 17.5 million barrels a day on production is a brave stab at ending the world glut and reaffirming their hold on an ever turbulent market. Possibly it has an outside chance of working. But the odds that oil prices will have to weaken further than they have already are still running strongly in our favour.

What happens next depends partly on the physical dictates of supply and demand, and partly on the psychology of the oil market. The latter is by no means a simple story.

The expenditure estimate is showing a 0.8 per cent rise and the income estimate is on a par with the equivalent period in 1980. What has happened is that the output measure has been painting a gloomier picture of what is happening than other estimates, especially the expenditure series.

As the economy picks up, we would expect this to go into reverse with the output measure being more bullish and the expenditure data giving a gloomier picture.

This could have an important impact on the way the Treasury handles recovery. The output measure is published earlier than the rest and tends to be perceived as the best guide. So over the next year, it is likely to feel as if the economy is growing faster than the 1½ per cent growth which the Chancellor forecast.

TSBs

The next stage

Who owns the Trustee Savings Bank? In just, nobody does. But the TSBs are trying to come up with a more satisfactory answer to enable them to complete the transition to the private sector.

The TSB Group has been undergoing a radical transformation during recent years. The 1976 Trustee Savings Bank Act set the scene for the TSBs to become the "third force" in United Kingdom banking creating a unique federal structure of 16 regional TSBs around a central body, the TSB Group.

However, the problem of ownership still remains to be solved before the TSBs can seek enabling legislation to complete the transition to full banking status in the private sector and away from the Treasury, which now controls them.

Although the TSBs, with balance sheet footings of some £6,000, have no equity capital, there is an accumulated surplus of some £600m. But as consumer societies, nobody actually owns them. Furthermore, some of the regional banks are very independently minded.

Keen to complete the transition during this Parliament, the TSBs are trying to come up with an answer to their constitutional muddle by September to allow time for legislation. This might involve regional banks in the United Kingdom covering England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland — owned by a holding company. But if, say, the central board, which is a statutory corporation, became the group holding company, this still leaves the problem of who owns the central board and to whom it should be accountable when it moves to the private sector.

The TSB itself appears to favour some form of mutuality of trust involving depositors. But finding the right formula is a complex and tricky problem.

imbalance in the world oil market underlines the fact that Opec's leaders know the market is not yet back on their side. Three years ago, Opec produced more than 60 per cent of the free world's oil supplies. Today, its share is 17.5 million barrels a day out of 46 million barrels a day — or less than 40 per cent.

GDP

Yardsticks

The latest figures on output confirm the picture which has been emerging of a slow recovery. The Central Statistics Office has slightly scaled down its estimate of recovery last summer, but has produced the same estimate for output in the final quarter of 1981 as it published last month.

The output measure just fractionally below its level in the final quarter of 1980. But the other two measures of Gross Domestic Product are telling a much more optimistic story.

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M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Lovat Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price	Chgs	Div	Yld %	P/E	Actual	Trend
129	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	129	—	10.0	7.8	—	—	—	—
51	62	Airsprung Group	73	—	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0	—	—
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	—	4.3	6.8	8.5	—	—	—
205	187	Bardon Hill	189	—	9.7	4.9	3.7	11.8	—	—
107	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	107	—	15.7	14.7	—	—	—	—
104	63	Deborah Services	63	—	6.0	9.5	3.1	5.9	—	—
131	97	Frank Horsell	127	—	6.4	5.0	11.4	23.5	—	—
83	39	Frederick Parker	78nd	—	6.4	8.2	4.0	7.6	—	—
78	46	George Blair	53	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Proc Castings	96	+1	7.3	7.6	6.9	10.4	—	—
109	100	Isis Conv Pref	109	—	15.7	14.4	—	—	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9	—	—
130	108	James Burroughs	114	—	8.7	7.6	8.3	10.5	—	—
334	248	Robert Jenkins	250	+2	31.3	12.5	3.5	8.8	—	—
64	51	Scruttons "A"	64	—	5.3	8.3	9.8	9.1	—	—
22	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5	—	—
15	10	Twinkl Ord	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinkl 15% ULIS	79nd	—	15.0	18.9	—	—	—	—
44	25	Unilever Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6	—	—
103	73	Walker Alexander	79	—	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2	—	—
263	212	W. S. Yeates	229	+1	13.1	5.2	4.3	8.8	—	—

Prices now available on Prestal page 48146



INTERNATIONAL

YOUTH AFRICA

Stenburg Platinum, South Africa's biggest producer of metal, suffered a severe loss in profits during the six months to the end of February. It lost £4.4m (£24.15m) from 10m. In the 12 months to the end of August 1981, Stenburg's pretax profits were £23.5m. The company declared an interim dividend of 12.5 cents, the highest in its history. It was said that the company's profits were caused by the substantial decline in the price of platinum. The company is believed to be stockpiling platinum while the price is high. One of its largest customers, continues.

HONGKONG

ongkong business leaders have reacted calmly to the agreement on trade ports to the United States which severely cuts growth rates for 23 "sensitive" categories to 12 per cent to two per cent and to 10 per cent for textiles, shoes, shirts, trousers, suits and salons. Counts for two-thirds of hongkong's textile exports to the United States.

GERMANY

alks in West Germany between management and unions on the future of NKA's chemical fibres plant in Kassel will restart tomorrow after an independent ability study.

West German crude oil exports fell 4.5 per cent in 1981 from 1.98 million tonnes in the first two months of 1980 to 14.66 million tonnes in the like period of 1981. The federal trade office has reported.

UWAIT

The Kuwaiti government has been advised to open public sector spending to allow the economy to grow. The government has come from the oil industry which has been the main source of revenue. The government has been advised to open public sector spending to allow the economy to grow.

TALY

Transocean, which is one of the world's largest shipping companies, has announced that it will be withdrawing from the Italian market. The company has been operating in the Italian market for many years and has been successful. However, it has decided to withdraw from the Italian market.

SWEDEN

Swedish banks have been advised to open public sector spending to allow the economy to grow. The government has been advised to open public sector spending to allow the economy to grow.

MALAYSIA

Malaysia's economy is expected to grow by 4.5 per cent in 1982. The government has been advised to open public sector spending to allow the economy to grow.

RS VIEWS

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NEW APPOINTMENTS

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SPORT

RUGBY UNION

Feast with 495 courses

By Peter Marson

As night follows day, so Rosslyn Park perform their annual small miracle at Rye, hampton and its environs over the next four days when 250 of the leading rugby-playing schools wrestle for survival through a total of 495 matches.

The national schoolboy seven-a-side tournament, now in its forty-fourth year, kicks off this morning on KCS Old Boys' ground on the Kingston bypass at 9.15 am when students of gastrology will be musing over their black coffee and discussing the merits of kippers and kebab.

Playing in groups of five, 85 schools will have negotiated four rounds in the open tournament by this evening, with group winners jostling for a place in the final tomorrow (6.30) at Rehampton.

Also tomorrow 44 schools start out in the junior schools (under 13) tournament and 75 more in the Festival, which is for one-term rugby schools only. On Thursday it is all change for All Hallows and Terra Nova as 40 preparatory schools swerve and dummy their way to the lie in their own mini festival.

By 12.30 today we shall have had our first look at St Edward's, Liverpool, Sevenoaks, the holders, Cowley and Llandoverly.

Cousins and Curry return to the competitive stage

Robin Cousins and John Curry are returning to competition. The former world ice skating champion will take part in a professional circuit of competitions with prize money of £5,000 at stake in each contest.

Plans for the new competition were revealed at Heathrow Airport yesterday by Cousins as he flew to Montreal to take part in the first event this weekend.

Boarding a Concorde flight he said: "It's true to say that I miss the old feeling of competition. It's been two years since my last top class contest and I guess I miss the adrenalin and tension of

competition. This will be a chance to put myself back into competition against all of the top professional skaters from all over the world." Curry, though will not compete for prize money.

Asked if he had any regrets about turning professional he said: "No — none whatsoever." If the first competition in Montreal is a success, seven more events are planned in Canada, seven in the United States and others in the Far East and Europe. The circuit will initially involve 15 of the top men skaters and the women's circuit will include the top three, Janet Lynn, Dorothy Hannill and Peggy Fleming.

"Each contest will be similar to the Olympics or world championships but there will be no compulsory figures — which is great from my point of view. There is \$10,000 in prize money for the first event and the others will be similar," Cousins said.

"The first one is to see what response there is for a professional circuit. It is a success the other events will go ahead. I will be competing in the first one but plan to exhibit in some of the others. John Curry is just exhibiting in Montreal."

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ICE SKATING



Curry: just exhibiting in Montreal



Cousins: adrenalin is flowing again

SQUASH

Fog may clear in time for a side view of the last four

By Rex Bellamy

The struggle to win first prize of £2,500 and £300 has been reduced to four players of each sex in the Patrick Tournament at the Chichester Festival Theatre. The pairing for this event's semi-finals are Jahangir Khan v Qamar Zaman, Hidayat Khan v Geoff Hunt, Ruth Strauss v Lisa Opie, and Susan Cogswell v Vicki Cardwell, formerly Miss Hoffmann.

Miss Strauss was not seeded and Miss Cogswell was seeded only fifth but there is not much to choose between Miss Strauss, Martine Le Moignan (the seed she beat) and Miss Opie — a teenager and all British. Nor could Miss Cogswell's win over Angela Smith be regarded as surprising, though 9-5, 9-3, 9-0 was unexpectedly convincing.

Other than the presence of the leading contenders for the forthcoming British championships, the most interesting feature of the tournament was the introduction, on Sunday, of the Swedish Trans Wall court, made of a material called Plexiglass. This permitted viewing through the side wall, as well as the back wall. The entire structure looked rather like a large greenhouse, with a flat roof.

The court had been shipped from Stockholm and was being used for a round trip to Cologne. All this shunting about

probably had something to do with the fact that the walls were scratched, smeared and also bore ball marks. The result was a disappointingly foggy affair, which made the flight of the ball difficult to follow. But the organizers and technical staff have had a day and a half in which to tackle an unusually tricky exercise in window-cleaning.

A further handicap, inevitable when squash is played on stage, is that the referee and marker are badly positioned: in this case, on the seventh row of the stalls. This together with the fact that their view through the back wall falls short of the desirable clarity, makes their task uncommonly difficult and the players well aware of this, therefore, have less confidence than usual in close decisions.

The organizers nevertheless deserve praise for their enterprise in taking the game a bold stride forward. The playing conditions are good, strokes hit to a tight length are well-rewarded, and the view through the side wall has added a new and often breathtaking dimension to the game's entertainment value. The best view of all is from the balconies above the side walls, because downward sight-lines mean that the ball is easy to follow against



Jahangir Khan... faces Qamar Zaman in semi-final

the solid background of the door. In short, this brave experiment is, for all its imperfections, an exciting advance, squash holds a proud place among Britain's participant sports. It may never achieve similar prominence as a spectator sport, except on television, but it is clearly breaking through what were formerly regarded as the boundaries of the possible.

ATHLETICS

London Mile road race planned for next year

From Norman Fox, Athletics Correspondent, Rome, March 22

A decision by the International Amateur Athletic Association to carry this weekend has substantially improved the chances of a London Mile road race, taking place next year, possibly along the Embankment and finishing at the House of Parliament.

Although no official approaches have yet been made to the British Athletics or government authorities, the idea of a race similar to New York's Fifth Avenue Mile is unlikely to be opposed by the IAAF. The fact they have been fearful that such races would be treated too seriously with promoters claiming world records.

After meeting here, they concluded: "The committee sees no threat, if correctly scheduled in relation to the key dates of the track and field season, in staging popular road races over distances of 10,000 metres or less, e.g. the Fifth Avenue Mile, New York. Such races which attract thousands of spectators, can provide a very positive means of promotion for track and field athletics."

Not surprisingly the plan for a London Mile comes from the organizer of the New York Mile and marathon races, Fred Lebow who was one of many organizers and promoters who used the world cross country championships here as a market place for the mile race at Eugene, Oregon, bargaining over future events.

The energetic Mr. Lebow generally manages to put his ideas into practice. He now wants to see a world wide series of road mile events.

Already he is working on a Paris Mile with television coverage, almost secured, and other races are scheduled for Baltimore, Rome and Tokyo. In London he would like to use the Mall or Piccadilly but the police are more likely to give permission for the Embankment.

The public would expect a London Mile to include Steve Owen and Sebastian Coe. Last year Owen entered for the Fifth Avenue Mile but withdrew because of a virus. However, Mr. Lebow said the appearance of Coe and Owen, who has now returned to his mile series, indeed it could be an embarrassment if the crowds were too big to handle.

It seems that the initial excitement over the possibility of Coe and Owen meeting anywhere has faded, at least in the eyes of television companies. Whereas the McCormack organization was understood to be talking of a \$1m North American contract for television rights for the proposed three race series, the price has come down to \$250,000. CBS have agreed to pay \$170,000 on September 25.

HOCKEY

UAU are best prepared and have widest range

By Sydney Friskin

Universities Athletic Union are strongly fancied to win the 4-2 title at the British Universities Sports Federation championship which starts today at Close House playing field, Hadden-on-the-Wall, Newcastle. They have the widest range in the choice of players and are the best prepared.

Play starts at 9.30 with a match between Scotland, last year's runners-up, and Cambridge, on another pitch, Trinity College (Dublin) will take on Northern Ireland in a series of pool matches from which the winners and runners-up will qualify for the semi-final round. The final will be played at 11.15 on Thursday.

Competition should be keener in Pool A, which consists of Scotland, Cambridge, London, and Oxford. UAU seem to stand out against the three rivals in Pool B, Trinity College (Dublin), Northern Ireland and Wales.

UAU have drawn much of their talent from Loughborough, the

winner of the UAU championship when they beat Durham 4-2 in the 1979-80 season. Their strength is provided by Keith Rowley, Lillyman and Vartan. Clift, Maskery and possibly others. Their defence, too, is solid and reliable and they should win this pool easily.

Cambridge, who beat Oxford 1-1 in the 1980-81 season, are fielding more or less the same side and will look to Lewis, Gregory and Atkinson to do the front running and to Walker and Miles to set up the attacks. In one of the later matches today they will meet Oxford, who will need to play better in attack if they intend to avenge their defeat. They must hope for better things from Black Lawless and Robinson.

In Yellowless Scotland have a tower of strength at the back and their side look well balanced. London are the weakest of the four and will have to play extremely well to qualify.

VOLLEYBALL

Another lost weekend

Home advantage told in the international Class international 3-0 inside an hour (15-6, 15-11). It was hardly the best preparation for the English team's participation in the Spring Cup in April.

For them it was the same old story of lack of success in Scotland: it is 12 seasons now without a win for them there. On Saturday at Grampian, before a capacity crowd of around 700, the Scots won 3-1 (4-15, 5-12, 8-15) for the international Red Cross Trophy, and after the second set were well on top.

Jim Cowper, of MFM, the Scottish champion club, was outstanding and was man of the match, while Steve Pincott, the English spiker, was outstanding in the first set but faded and did not look match fit.

On Sunday at Irvine, before

another full house, the Scots found it even easier, winning the Racket Class international 3-0 inside an hour (15-6, 15-11). It was hardly the best preparation for the English team's participation in the Spring Cup in April.

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CYCLING

Manchester are the hub

By John Wilcockson

Five riders from Manchester Wheelers have been chosen by the British Cycling Federation for the Great Britain and England teams in next month's Sealink international race.

Three riders from this sponsored club are in the top team, headed by Bob Downs, who lives at Basildon, Essex. Downs won the Sealink two years ago. With him in the team are his two club colleagues, Jeff Williams, who has won a Sealink stage in each of the past two years, and Steve Joughin, winner of the Grand Prix of Essex last Sunday.

Leader of the England team is

the 1981 national champion, Mark Bell, now racing in France. He will be supported by two riders of great experience, Steve Poulter and John Clewarch, and the two other Manchester Wheelers, Des Frostwell and Peter Longbottom. The race starts in Oxford on April 19 and after a channel crossing the final four stages take place in England, finishing in Manchester on April 24.

SEALINK ENGLAND: R. Downs (Essex), M. Bell (France), S. Joughin (Essex), J. Williams (Essex), D. Frostwell (Manchester), P. Longbottom (Manchester), S. Poulter (Essex).

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ALL MALT WHISKIES are good. A few, sublime. Among these, there is some gentlemanly jostling for pride of place.

The Old Contenders

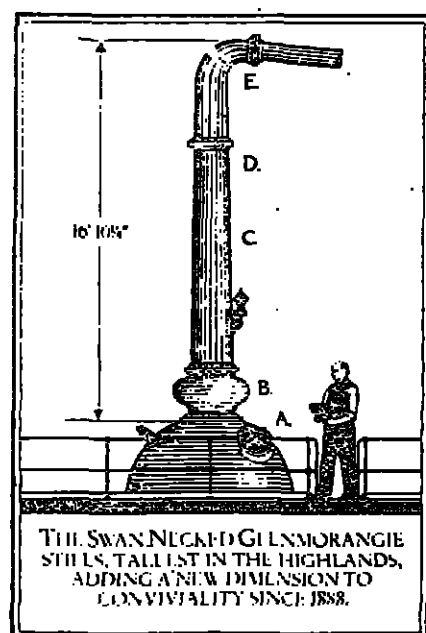
SOME POINT TO their product's mist-shrouded history; some to their peat and their barley; others yet to the chilly waters of the burn that feeds the distillery; or to the length of time the finished liquor matures and burgeons in its oaken bed.

Primus inter pares

ONLY ONE, HOWEVER, stands literally head and shoulders above the rest.

ITS NAME IS GLENMORANGIE, a saffron-gold malt of the most singular sweet-temper and purity.

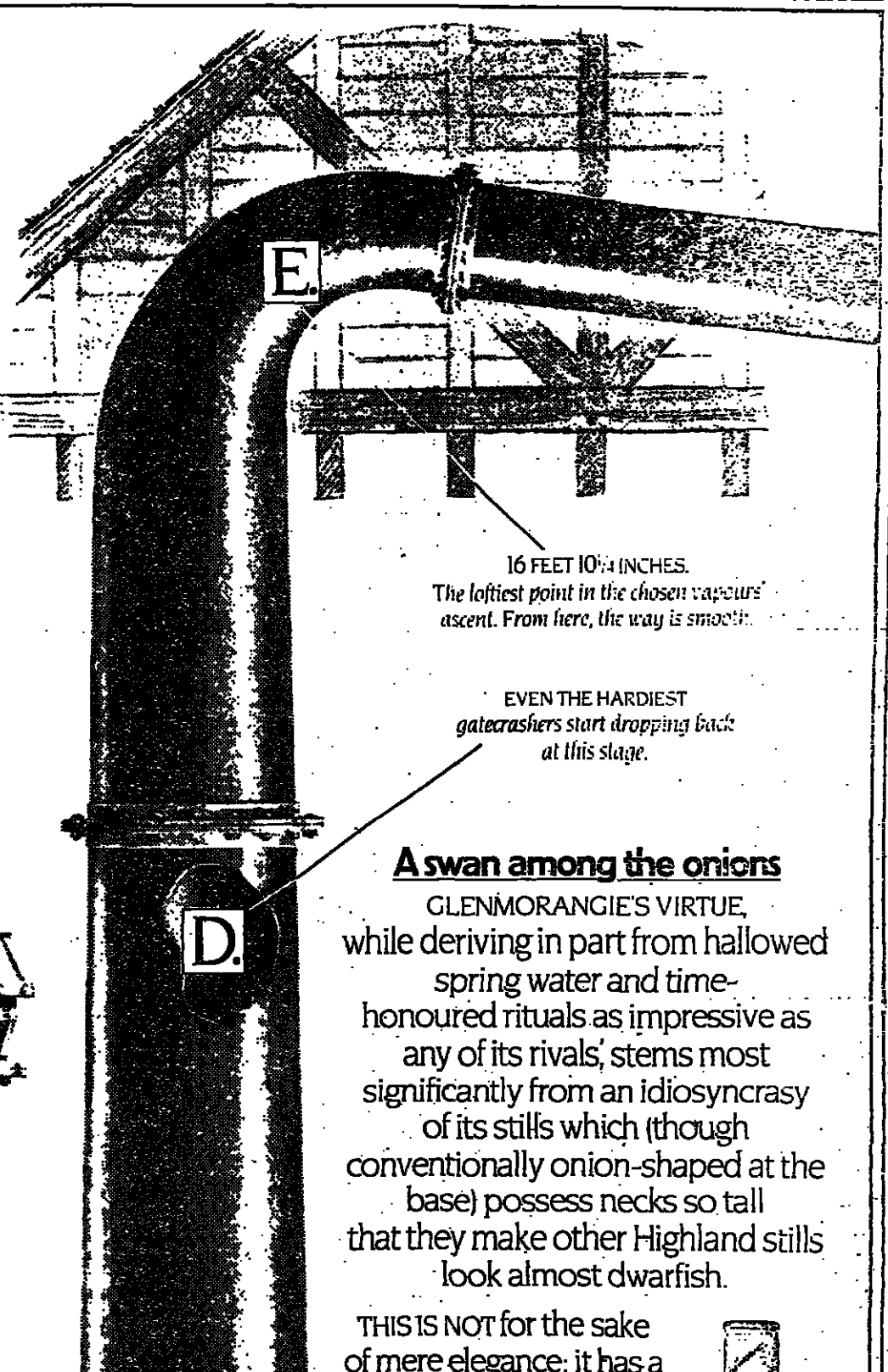
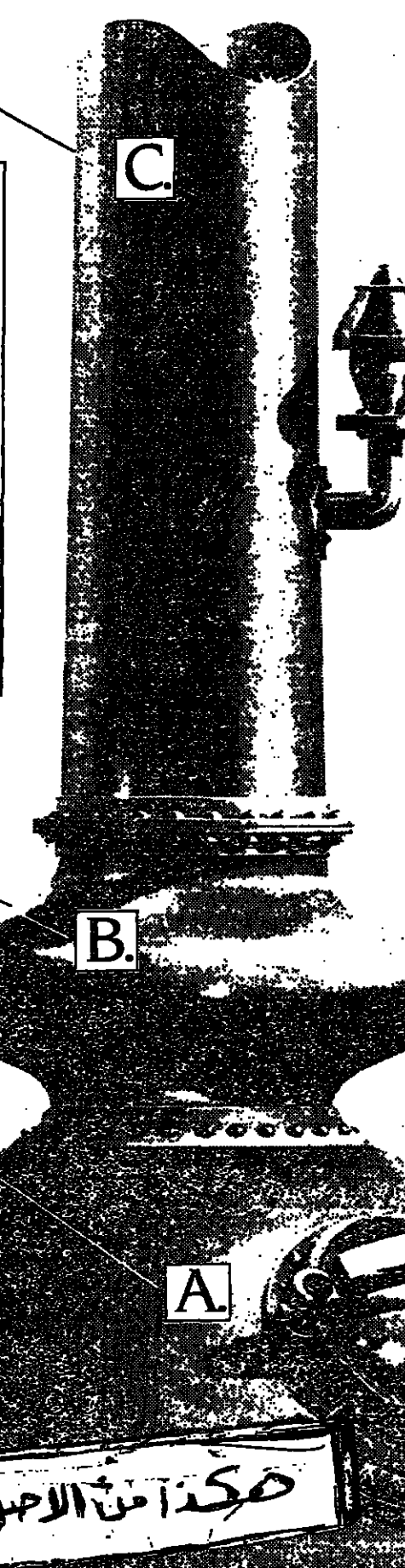
AT THIS POINT most other Highland malt stills call it a day. But callow elements can still be ascending.



THE SWAN NECKED GLENMORANGIE STILL, TALLEST IN THE HIGHLANDS, ADDING A NEW DIMENSION TO CONVIVIALITY SINCE 1858.

NOTE THE BULGE in the neck just above the main body of the still. It catches the crasser essences and returns them to the boiling.

THE HEART of the whisky-making process, the still itself, where the cherished ingredients seethe and jostle in anticipation of imminent lift-off.



16 FEET 10 1/4 INCHES. The loftiest point in the chosen vapours' ascent. From here, the way is smooth.

EVEN THE HARDEST gatecrashers start dropping back at this stage.

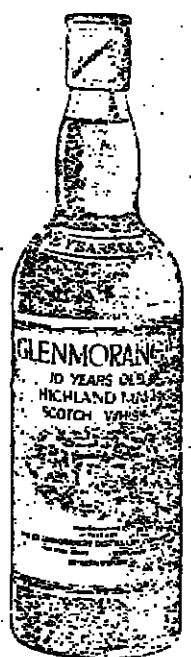
Aswan among the onions
GLENMORANGIE'S VIRTUE, while deriving in part from hallowed spring water and time-honoured rituals as impressive as any of its rivals, stems most significantly from an idiosyncrasy of its stills which (though conventionally onion-shaped at the base) possess necks so tall that they make other Highland stills look almost dwarfish.

THIS IS NOT for the sake of mere elegance; it has a higher purpose.

The height of contentment

THE TALLER THE NECK of the still, the less can the heavier elements and grosser oils climb to mingle with the purer vapours that ascend to the top.

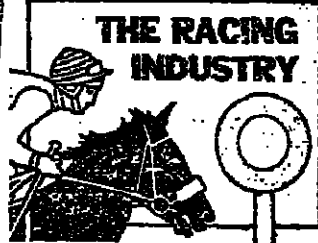
THE RESULT (after ten years' slumber in oaken casks) is a single malt whisky from which initiates obstinately refuse to be weaned, and to which newcomers vow dedication from the first uplifting bibble.



A little nearer heaven than other Malt Whiskies.

GLENMORANGIE

The Glenmorangie Distillery Company, Tain, Ross-shire Established 1843



THE FLAT: By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

A special investigation into how the sport of kings has survived the restraints of the recession and how the industry will meet the challenges of the future: Part 1

Rough ride ahead to keep the crowds

English racing, as portrayed by the 1981 Flat season, appears to be in good order. More money than ever, ever increasing prize money, more horses in training, more prize money than ever, ever increasing prize money paid for a horse ready to go to stud, but also the unproven yearling. Add to this the fact that attendances were reasonably stable (2,396,479 for 451 race days last season compared with 2,355,398 for 403 race days in 1980) and it seems that Flat racing has weathered the recession remarkably well.

But, sadly, all is not as rosy for this sport. Problems ahead. Prize money last season rose by £1,365,628 — from £12,633,000 to £13,998,628 — with the Horserace Betting Levy Board providing £6,516,250. Yet that increase only kept pace with inflation.

The Levy Board have increased their allocation by 13 per cent for the coming season which begins on Thursday, but a rise of more than 20 per cent is necessary for the real value to be restored to 1978 levels. That is as worrying as the knowledge that several leading trainers have had to increase their charges by as much as 20 per cent recently. One of our leading trainers did so because his accountant had just told him that he had made a loss of £27,000 on his fees in the last financial year.

The more you delve, the less healthy racing's finances look. That trainer whose business made a loss had to win £270,000 in prize money — a trainer officially receives 10 per cent of prizes — before his operation broke even.

At the sales last autumn many Flat race trainers bemoaned not only the lack of orders to buy yearlings but also the dwindling number of old-fashioned sporting English owners, who are not in it for the money — the chum who would have a horse in training in the same way that he would take a gun in a shoot or a rod on a river.

Arabs out for blood

Flat racing is passing through a period of considerable change. The sort of owner-bred horse who was the backbone of the sport in the fifties and early sixties is now almost extinct. In his place are more and more Arabs.

The headline on an authoritative article covering one of last year's big sales, referring to Robert Sangster, the pools millionaire, claimed that only he "is in the Arab league". Mr. Sangster and a variety of partners have been responsible for a great deal of money being pumped into Anglo-Irish bloodstock during the last few years.

A year ago Christopher Stephenson, an estate agent who specializes in the buying and selling of studs and racing properties, forecast Arab interest on a quite unprecedented scale by the autumn — not just for the best land but also the best blood. And how right he was. During the sales the wags were saying that a bloodstock agent without an Arab in tow was not worth his salt.

It goes deeper than simply saying that by buying studs as well as horses training they are providing employment. The English owner can easily be tempted to sell to the United States or Ireland, where tax concessions make huge investments in the thoroughbred both easy and attractive. For example if you stand a horse at stud in Ireland the profits are not taxable as they are in England. The oil-rich Arab can afford to disregard even the highest offers from abroad.

To ensure that a horse of the highest calibre remains here these days, an English owner paying English taxes has to resort to syndication and even then the price paid may be out of all proportion and he may have to accept a bid on the American scale. But to know of one Arab owner who has decided that he will afford to retain the horse concerned. If that were to become a

trend, studs and stallions in England would once again be the envy of the racing world. Last season did prove that English racing still has a colossal appeal for owners at home and abroad. More of them had horses in training than ever before; more entries were made than during the previous season and more of those horses were two-year-olds. That is likely to be the pattern in the weeks and months ahead.

As a stamping ground the English racecourse has no equal. It is accepted that winning a top-class race here is one of the best ways of converting a basic asset into a valuable international commodity. The prize for the winning owner will vary from £20,000 to £100,000, but the real value of the victory is that the horse can then be worth millions.

Last year many horses were sold for astronomical sums — prices were dragged up and by the strength of the dollar and American competitiveness. The Derby winner, Shergar, was syndicated for £10m and not long afterwards King's Lake was valued at the same figure. Both are now at stud in Ireland. Keenon and Master Willie were also sold at the United States for millions of dollars.

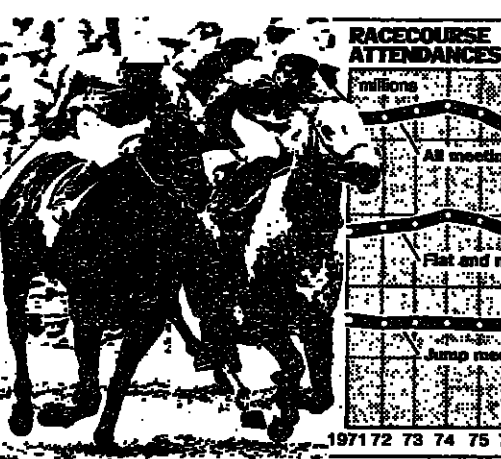
Public support for Flat racing stood up surprisingly well last season due in part to widespread press and television coverage, and because racing is a family sport — you are less likely to get mugged on a racecourse than at a football match. Another factor is the sport's own excellence. The racing public is a discerning one: the better the fare, the better the attendance.

Because Ascot, where quality is all, had excellent attendances, its authorities are poised to plough more and more back into the sport. Newbury, Newmarket, and the United Racecourses group, which comprises Sandown Park, Kempton Park and Epsom, reported less impressive attendances but encouraging revenue because more people patronised the more expensive enclosures.

A strict disciplinary code and rigid anti-doping measures are other reasons why English racing appeals to watching and betting public alike. There is scope for improvement in the detection and control of viral diseases. The Levy Board are the first to concede this and it is a prime reason for their need for more money. Research is a priority.

That is only right because nothing undermines the confidence of the investor, whether owner or better, than unhealthy horses. Equine disease destroys everyone's confidence and makes form meaningless. Last season the big stables run by Dick Hern and John Dunlop were brought to a standstill in the spring by a virus.

In an ideal world every course would have its own starting stalls. Whether slightly bigger stalls than those at present, which have to be smaller than, for example, the French stalls in order to comply with Department of Environment regulations when they are moved from course to course.



FACES TO WATCH

What Flat season could do without these elements? Above, the eager eyes of the crowd at Newmarket; left, Robert Sangster, the only owner in the Arab league; and right, Lester Piggott, soon to do battle for his eleventh championship.

would have prevented Lester Piggott nearly losing an ear in that horrible accident at Epsom last April is a matter for conjecture. Last season from 32,486 runners there were only 19 breakouts from stalls (0.06 per cent) involving injuries to four jockeys. There were also seven reported accidents to handlers.

A committee has examined every aspect of starting stalls procedure as well as the stalls. Evidence and information was obtained from all sections of the British industry, the United States, Australia, France and Ireland. While declining to sanction the cost of newer and bigger stalls in the economic climate, the committee made a number of suggestions which the Jockey Club believe will substantially improve safety on racecourses this year.

Inevitably some will wonder whether the death of Joe Blanks after a fall at Brighton last summer and the serious injuries that Carson, Cool and Bleasdale suffered in falls means that Flat racing in England is more dangerous than it used to be. On the contrary, thanks to the constant vigilance of stewards, camera patrol films and the excellent headgear that jockeys wear, it is arguably safer.

For once this year, arrangements between owners, trainers and their jockeys are much the same as 12 months ago. Before last season there was a seemingly endless game of musical chairs as jockeys were enticed to change stables. Like last season Lester Piggott, the champion, will ride for Henry Cecil; Walter Swinburn will be attached to Michael Stoute's stable; Greville Starkey to Guy Harwood; Joe Mercer to Peter Walwyn; Steven Cauthen to Barry Hills and Pat Eddery riding for Jeremy Tree whenever his contract with Vincent O'Brien permits.

Willie Carson, fit again, after his bad fall at York, will be Dick Hern's stable jockey again this season and as such he should have an excellent chance of winning a classic wearing the royal colours. The Queen's filly, Height of Fashion, is being tipped as the likely winner of the Oaks.

Jockeys in stable mood

The allocation of prize money, has caused some resentment. Objections have been expressed over the Levy Board's decision to pump still more into Pattern races during the coming season. Pattern races are the 100 or so top-class races run annually — graded by their importance into groups one, two and three — which form the backbone of our racing calendar.

Critics say that Pattern races get enough help already; that they are well capable of standing on their own feet and by giving them more — an 8.9 per cent increase — the Levy Board are giving more to those who need it least. The counter argument is that having worked so hard to get the precious Pattern we must keep it at all costs. Now that it is accepted internationally, it helps provide comparisons at a time when trade in top class bloodstock worldwide is increasing.

Pattern races help to make the stars and it is the stars who help to fascinate and attract the public. If by giving more money to pattern races, it means success feeding off success, so be it. Far better a Flat racing season in this country with a strong backbone than one without.

The thrill of the chase still holds no parallel in sport

NATIONAL HUNT: By Michael Seely

To say that steeplechasing is a sport and that Flat racing is an industry is a cliché, but nevertheless true. The main difference is that there is no end product in the winter game.

For three years from 1964-6 Arkle dominated the scene and captured the public imagination as the greatest steeplechaser since Golden Miller. Yet after Arkle had packed a bone in his foot in the King George VI Steeplechase at Kempton Park the roar of the crowds was of no other use. He retired at the end of his days in honourable retirement at the home his owner, Anne, Duchess Westminster, just a glimmer of memory to those who remembered him in his

On the other hand every male which races on the flat has a residual value, be it a potential stallion, a prospect for jumping, or export abroad. The winner of three-year-old maiden race at 3-11 in July, for example, will be worth £10,000. He possesses the necessary attributes and substance to be used as a hurdler.

The theme of money runs through the whole of the flat. Such horses as Shergar, Reef, Brigadier Gerard and Troy were stars of the magnitude and drew the crowds to the course. At the end of their three-year-old careers most of them were sold to stud, syndicated in some cases for thousands of pounds.

Those who go steeplechasing are addicts and have a love of horses in their bones. Of those involved are

recovered from cancer and from leishmaniasis. Every year the National Hunt Festival at Cheltenham is a triumph of the Gloucestershire town. And the roars of triumph that greet the winners must be heard in Somerset.

Cheltenham has its own heroes: Gold Cup winners, like Captain Christy and Little Owl and Silver Buck; champion hurdlers, like Monksfield and Sea Pigeon; and also animals like Willie Whummers, who last March at the age of 13 won the Joe Coral Golden Hurdle Final for the third successive year.

Considering the recession National Hunt racing is thriving. Total attendances have shown a steady if slight increase and more and more horses seem to be coming into training. It is sport of personal involvement. There were only 84 trainers with licences restricted to National Hunt racing in 1980 compared with 498 permitted holders, who could act only on behalf of their wives and their immediate family.

One gratifying aspect of steeplechasing compared with the flat is that there is not such a wide gap between the north and the south. You only have to consider the records of Peter Easterby, Michael Dickinson, who swept all before him at Cheltenham last week, and Gordon Richards to realize this. Good prospects are hard to come by and expensive; although trainers such as Fred Winter, Fulke Walwyn and Mercy Rimell in the south have patrons with deeper pockets, it is not like the flat where the northern trainers are completely priced out of the market.

We are talking about the difference between £15,000 and £30,000 in this instance, whereas on the flat, although there are still big gains to be bought, prices for yearlings can go over

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Festival for all: The glory of Cheltenham last week

£500,000. None of these find their way north of the Trent. However, no picture is entirely rosy. One gloomy aspect is that high-class steeplechasers are becoming harder to find, although there is an abundance of useful hurdlers. The reasons are twofold. Ireland used to be the main nursery of what is known in the trade as the "store horse". Nowadays the Irish cannot afford to keep more of their better horses to themselves, and they are also breeding fewer of them, because the returns on producing horses for the flat are quicker and infinitely more rewarding. The same is true in England.

As to the costs, suppose you buy an unbroken three-year-old for £10,000. It will be another three years or more before he will be ready to run over fences. So the initial payment is only a deposit. It will then cost another £4,000 a year or so before the finished article is produced. However, it is not like buying furniture on hire, an extremely delicate animal. During that period he has to remain sound in wind and limb.

The richer owners on the flat able to sell their horses on, and they are also encouraged to breed them. The Levy Board, for example, help to

finance the National Stud, and there are also fillies' premiums for winners of that sex. The producer of prospective jumpers gets no assistance at all.

The distribution of prize money can be considered unfair on another count. No official figures are available but an informed source said that the amount of money now wagered on steeplechasing annually is within three and a half per cent of that bet on the flat. Judged on that basis alone, the so-called "lesser branch" of the industry is entitled to a larger slice of the cake.

As for the jockeys, our admiration for them is boundless. Men like the late Tim Brookshaw and John O'Neill, who made a successful return last December after a crippling fall on Simbad at Bangor in October 1980, possess courage, beyond belief. And yet only the top five make a fat living, with another 20 able to manage a decent wage.

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TODAY'S RACING

Fontwell provide schoolboy treat

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

Times have certainly changed since I was at school. In those far-off days the slightest interest shown in racing was frowned upon as I found out to my cost. However, at Fontwell Park today, visitors will find the racecourse sponsored by a local school, Slindon College, where the headmaster, Paul Wright, takes the lead in encouraging his pupils not simply to take an active interest in the 'sport of kings', but also help with the day-to-day running of their stables, and the training of the 20 or thereabouts currently billeted there. They are trained by Nicholas Lee-Judson, who also doubles up as the chemistry master.

Today, the school will be rooting for Ziparib and Wistington Joy, who will be carrying their hopes and their head's colours in the Slindon Scholars' school handicap hurdle. Sadly, Boxfoot, their intended runner in the Slindon College Novices' Steeplechase is not able to take part after all, but they will have representatives in both the Munday Handicap Hurdle and the Madehurst Novice Hurdle. All in all, it should be a good outing.

Michael Dickinson, another of the heroes of this year's National Hunt Festival, expects Ballydonagh to win the Trent Handicap Steeplechase at Nottingham, even though he has not raced since the beginning of November.

Killer Shark seems likely to take the novices' steeplechase, especially if he reproduces the form that saw him waltz home at Towcester in February. The ground was very soft that day, and it is soft again now. Easter Express has only to run half as well as he did against Midnight Club at Wincanton 12 days ago to have the Charlton Hunters' Chase at his mercy.

Upton Bishop should give his backers a good run in the handicap hurdle because he does not know how to run a bad race. At Fontwell, where he has won at Fontwell, Upton Bishop is trained not far from the course by Nadine Smith, who scored at Cheltenham last Thursday.

Fontwell Park

2.0 MUNDHAM HURDLE (Novices: £778; 2½m) (15 runners)

1 0133 THE ALDERMAN (J. Frost) R 6-11-2 M J Frost
2 0134 SENTRY FOX (A. J. Swann) R 6-11-2 M J Frost
3 00000 ASPEN PLANE (P. Pott) R 6-11-3 G. Gifford
4 00000 CHALMERS (A. J. Swann) R 6-11-3 G. Gifford
5 00000 CRACKING LAD (A. J. Swann) R 6-11-3 G. Gifford
6 00000 DOUGLO (J. Frost) R 6-11-3 M J Frost
7 00000 HANDBOOK (A. J. Swann) R 6-11-3 M J Frost
8 00000 HANDBOOK (A. J. Swann) R 6-11-3 M J Frost
9 00000 KICWORTHY (B. Barron) R 6-11-3 M J Frost
10 2200-00 JUST A KICKER (B. Barron) R 6-11-3 M J Frost
11 17 00000 GLOUCESTER (A. J. Swann) R 6-11-3 M J Frost
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Edited by Peter Dear

Radio 1
 5.00am As Radio 2, 7.00 Mike Read.
 5.30am Steve Wright, 5.45 News, 6.00
 6.00am Sales, 11.30 Dave Lee
 6.15am Brian, 2.00pm Paul Burnett, 3.30
 3.45 Steve Wright, 5.50 Peter Powell, 7.00
 7.15am Brian Matthews from midnight.
 7.30am Trainers' Hour, 12.00
 12.00pm and 2: 5.00 am With Radio
 2, 1.20 pm With 2.00 am, 12.00-5.00
 am With Radio 2.

World Service
 BBC World Service can be received in
 Western Europe on medium wave (548 MHz
 (1983) at the following times (GMT): 6.00
 7.00 World News, 7.09 Twenty-

The Reth Lecture, 9.00	World News, 9.00	9.09
Review of the British Press, 9.15	The World, 9.15	9.29
Headline News, 9.30	World News, 9.30	9.39
Ahead 9.45	Discovery, 10.15	News of the World, 10.15
Headline News, 10.30	Musical Moments, 10.30	10.39
Headline News, 10.45	News About Britain, 10.45	10.59
Headline News, 11.15	Letter from London, 11.25	11.39
Headline News, 11.30	World News, 11.30	11.39
Headline News, 11.45	World News, 11.45	11.59
Headline News, 12.15	Musical Moments, 12.15	12.29
Headline News, 12.30	Sports Roundup, 12.40	World News, 12.40
Headline News, 12.45	World News, 12.45	12.59
Headline News, 1.15	A Jolly Good Show, 1.15	1.29
Headline News, 1.30	Therapeutic Theatre, 1.30	1.44
Headline News, 1.45	World News, 1.45	1.59
Headline News, 2.00	Commemorative, 4.15	Sarah and Company, 4.15
Headline News, 2.15	World News, 2.15	2.29
Headline News, 2.30	World News, 2.30	2.39
Headline News, 2.45	Four Hours News Summary, 3.05	3.19
Headline News, 3.15	World News, 3.15	3.29
Headline News, 3.30	World News, 3.30	3.39
Headline News, 3.45	World News, 3.45	3.59
Headline News, 4.00	World News, 4.00	4.09
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GRANADA

the Thames except: 1.20 pm Granada Reports. 1.30 Exchange Flugs. 2.00 Crown Court. 2.30-2.45 Old Soles. 4.45-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.15-5.45 Different Strokes. 8.00 This Is Your Night. 6.00 Crossroads. 6.30 Granada Reports. 7.00-7.30 Emeralds Farm. 7.30-7.45 Ladies' Man. 12.05 am Late Night From Two with Tim Rice. 12.30 closedown.

HTV

the Thames except: 12.30 pm 1.00 am Late Night with Nancy. 1.20-1.30 News. 3.40-4.15 Looks Familiar. 5.10-5.45 Different Strokes. 8.00 This Is Your Night. 6.00 Comedians. 7.00-7.30 Emeralds Farm. 7.30-7.45 Amazing News of Gnomes. Magicians. 12.05 closedown.

HIV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV Wales except: 9.35am-9.50 am
Ymgyrru, 11.30-11.45 About Wales.
12.00-12.15, 11.45-12.00
Cyngam, 5.10-5.20 Mr Magoo, 6.00
Dydd, 6.15-6.30 Report Wales.
10.00-10.15 Gwagfuddia Gwagfuddia
11.30-11.50 Just Desserts, 12.20am
closedown.

SCOTTISH

As Thames except: 12.30 pm-10.00
Gardening Time, 1.20-1.30 News.
1.48-4.15 Looks Familiar, 5.10
10.00-10.15, 11.30-11.45 Greenacres.
6.00 Scotland Today, 6.20 Job Spot.
7.30 What's Your Problem?, 7.00-7.30
10.00-10.15, 11.30-11.45 Greenacres.
11.05 Fast Forward in the World, 12.05 am 1982 Bullin's Grand
Mastere Darts, 12.30 Late Call, 12.35
closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN † STEREO
‡ BLACK AND WHITE TO REPEAT

Queen's Bench Division

Confusion over civil evidence in crown courts

the proceedings was regulation 18 of the Magistrates' Courts (Children and Young Persons) Rules 1971.

Decided cases established that parents had no right of appeal to the crown court in their own right, but that the Children's Act 1989 provision so permitted: see *In re A (Minors)* (1978) Fam 65).

It was held that the application to the crown court on behalf of the child: see *B v Gloucestershire County Council* (1980) 2 All ER 1002.

Where the child was separately represented: see *C (Minors) v Martin* (The Times, February 12, 1982).

Whether parents who appeared in proceedings under regulation 18 of the B v Gloucestershire case had been expressly proceeded for by that regulation fell for decision in *Minors v Martin* (see *Ex parte R* (1979) 1 All ER 1002) where a parent was not represented.

parties that there was a binding contract contained in two letters one of December 22, 1969 from the company.

But his Lordship did not regard that as concluding that the parents had the right to object to the admission of evidence when the case appearing for the child did not require it.

Enough had been said to indicate how hopelessly uncertain was the procedure in this branch of the law. It demanded the attentions of the body responsible for revising procedure in the vastly important field which affected the status of children and the rights of their parents.

The present case could, fortunately, be decided on the merits without resolving those uncertainties.

His Lordship could assume, without deciding, that the strict rules of evidence applied to proceedings under section 1 of the 1969 Act in the crown court; that parents and a solicitor could request such proceedings to be able to insist on cross-examination with those rules.

In the circumstances of the case, the discretion of the court would be exercised to refuse the order of the judge.

Solicitors: Mr Peter Norton; Messrs Donovan Smalley, Highgate; Mr R. B. Thorne, Wood Green.

